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DAVID MILLER

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Botha sends Howe home empty-handed

From Michael Hornsby, Pretoria

But if economic sanctions were applied, and "we are forced until our backs are against the wall, we will have no alternative but to stand up in self-respect and say to the world: 'You won't force South Africans to commit national suicide'."

At an earlier press conference before leaving for home, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, strove to put a brave face on his failure to wring concessions from Pretoria, and to give the impression that his mission might still continue if the EEC wished. It is obvious, however, that it is dead.

On the question that he repeatedly described during his visit here as the key to progress and peaceful dialogue in South Africa—the unconditional release of Mr Mandela and other political prisoners and the unbanning of the ANC—Sir Geoffrey could offer no tangible evidence of movement at all.

The most that the Foreign Secretary could suggest was that the case for freeing Mr Mandela "must have been advanced by the sustained and patient process of advocacy I've undertaken while I've been here. At what point the advance will turn into achievement, I can't say."

It is clear from what President Botha said later that Pretoria has once again rejected the idea of a truce or armistice while talks between the ANC and the Government take place, which was first mooted by the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group and taken up again by Sir Geoffrey.

Although he had not made the progress he had hoped for, he insisted that he did not regard the mission entrusted to him by the EEC as over, saying: "It's a mandate I shall seek to carry forward unless and until the 12 reach a different conclusion."

The Foreign Secretary has until the end of September to report back to other EEC member states, after which they are pledged to consider further measures against South Africa.

In his statement, President Botha took up Sir Geoffrey's repeated reference to the need for "a leap of the imagination" by Pretoria, and suggested that the problems of "multi-cultural societies worldwide" should be solved by "a combined leap of the imagination."

For example, President Botha said, would Britain and other countries "agree to seeking a common approach to so-called political prisoners in countries all over the world, including persons such as Mr Andrei Sakharov, the Russian dissident, and Mr Patrick Magee, the Brighton bomber?"

Would the EEC, the British Government and others, he asked, "agree to link punitive action against South Africa with similar action against all countries where any form of differentiation between racial and ethnic groups exists?"

● LONDON: The Opposition party leaders united last night in a call to the Prime Minister to drop his opposition to sanctions against South Africa. They were unanimous in their view that the Foreign Secretary had failed in his mission (Philip Webster writes).

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader said: "The man cannot be blamed for trying. The woman can be blamed for making him try. From the outset, the mission was an obvious delaying tactic."

Banning orders illegal, page 5
Robert Jackson, page 10



President Botha denouncing Sir Geoffrey Howe's peace mission in Pretoria yesterday.

Sizewell delay helps Tories before election

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

The Government is likely to be spared the political embarrassment of having to decide whether to commission the controversial Sizewell B nuclear power station in Suffolk before the next general election.

Ministers now expect the report of the 340-day public inquiry on the pressurized water reactor to be delayed until next year.

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, then would not have to announce the Government's decision before an election.

The Government is particularly keen to put off decisions which could alienate many of its own backbenchers in the election run-up.

This was reflected in the announcement of Mr Nicholas Ridley, the new Environment Secretary, to drop plans to privatize the water authorities. No attempt is likely to be made to overhaul the rating system in England and Wales in the near future.

Sizewell B is planned to be Britain's first pressurized water reactor, similar to the nuclear power system used widely in the United States.

But the whole issue of commissioning a new nuclear power station has become increasingly sensitive for the Government because of the public's suspicion about the nuclear industry. This has been fuelled by the Chernobyl disaster and also by concern about nuclear waste disposal and leaks from Sellafield.

The original costings, which compared nuclear with other fuels, have been disrupted by the unexpectedly large fall in oil prices. New safety requirements, drawn up by the nuclear installations inspectorate, also have affected the plans.

The Labour and Alliance parties have made it clear they will not build the £1,300 million power station if in power.

The report, believed to run to more than 100 chapters, has already been delayed twice because of a serious miscalculation in the complexity and scope of the inquiry.

The inquiry started in January 1983 and finished in March 1985. Sir Frank Layfield, the inquiry chairman, was expected to produce his report in October 1985. This was put back to April 1986. In the spring it was delayed until this autumn.

There is also concern among ministers that Sir Frank will make their job more difficult by not coming out firmly either for or against Sizewell B. His terms of reference require him to reach conclusions on findings of fact and to make recommendations "if any" or to give his reasons for not making recommendations.

The Department of Energy said Mr Walker still expected to receive the report in September and would be announcing the Government's decision on the project "as soon as possible".

Labour legislation will mean 'fairer job opportunities'

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A radical plan under which all companies seeking government work will have to disclose how many blacks and Asians they employ and show that they are determined to remove any unjustified under-representation has been drawn up by the Labour Party.

A Labour government would introduce a "comprehensive contract compliance strategy" to be pursued by Government, local authorities and other public bodies to ensure that fairer opportunities were given to black people, women and the disabled.

The plan would put pressure on police, armed forces and the Civil Service to recruit more blacks and Asians.

The proposals are contained in what party sources have described as its strongest ever statement on removing discrimination in employment. It is contained in the joint TUC-Labour document, *People at Work: New Rights, New Responsibilities*, which will go to the TUC and Labour conferences in the autumn for approval. It goes far beyond anything the present Government would be prepared to consider.

Companies applying for any kind of public work would lose valuable orders if it were shown that they were discriminating against ethnic minorities and failing to follow equal opportunities legislation.

In America companies applying for Government work have to produce action plans setting out timetables for correcting any under-representation of particular groups in their workforces.

When Home Office ministers last October suggested a tentative move towards contract compliance, by asking firms to state how many black and Asian people they employed, it was quickly stamped on by other ministers, including Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment. Government sources confirmed yesterday that contract compliance was "not on the cards".

The Labour document says a firm will be given by the government to promote equal opportunities for its employees, including "positive action" in the public services, police and armed forces.

Labour sources emphasized yesterday that this did not mean setting a fixed percentage, or quota, of black members.

Continued on page 16, col 8

Three die as pilgrim coach overturns

From Diana Geddes Paris

A coach carrying British pilgrims to Lourdes crashed yesterday on the A10 motorway near Tours, killing three people and injuring 27 others.

The coach, belonging to Westernham Coaches of Kent, was carrying a party of 42 people of varying ages from the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle in Northumberland. It overturned into a ditch as it was travelling along a straight and well-maintained section of the motorway, approaching a toll booth at 3.58 am. No other vehicle was involved.

Mr Timothy Bowser, who was driving at the time, and who is among the 27 injured, is reported to have told police that he was momentarily distracted while preparing money for the toll, and that he lost control of the vehicle.

Most of the 42 passengers and the relief driver were asleep at the time. Ten ambulances arrived at the scene to take the injured to hospitals in the area. They included the vicar who had organized the trip.

● When news of the accident reached Britain, Kent police, liaising with their French counterparts and the British embassy in Paris, set up an inquiry room to give out the names of the crash victims to relatives (Nicholas Beeston writes).

The police said they were inundated with hundreds of calls from concerned relatives of the thousands of British Catholics who converge on Lourdes this week for their annual pilgrimage.

The passengers ranged from an 11-year-old schoolboy to an 83-year-old man and his 75-year-old wife.

They are among the estimated 1,000 Catholics from north-east England who travel to Lourdes every year. One survivor, Mrs Catherine Croney, aged 58, of Wallaseid, said: "I don't know how it happened. We were all asleep and then suddenly we felt the coach topple over the bank. We are all very shocked and dazed."

The tour operator, Tangney Tours, which specializes in pilgrimages, said its managing director, Mr John Tangney, went directly to visit the injured at three hospitals located in and around Tours.

The dead were identified as: Mrs Clara Harvey, aged 62, who was deaf and dumb, of Bellingham Close, Wallaseid, north Tyneside; Mrs Alice McMenamy, aged 61, of Leam Lane Estate, Felling, Tyne and Wear; and Miss Clare Hudson, aged 21, a medical student from Church Lane, Murton, Co Durham.

France gears up, page 5

Thatcher plea for peace with media

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night instructed her Conservative Party colleagues not to quarrel with the media.

At a private meeting in the House of Lords, Mrs Margaret Thatcher surprised Conservative peers when she said that no prime minister should ever quarrel with the media.

She said: "It is difficult to win and you need them to get your message across."

In her traditional end-of-term address to Conservative peers, made in the wake of political controversy over allegations in *The Sunday Times* that the Queen was dismayed with her policy on South Africa, Mrs Thatcher said that she was profoundly thankful for, and grateful to, some newspapers.

But she echoed some of the criticisms of the BBC by her colleagues. "When it comes to the electronic media we have a more difficult time," she said.

Some programmes might seem to be blatantly slanted or one-sided, but they shouldn't quarrel, Mrs Thatcher said.

Tomorrow

Glorious Goodwood

Report on the £175,000 Sussex Stakes, plus previews of the Goodwood Cup and King George Stakes

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Cram goes to aid of Thompson

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent

Steve Cram yesterday defended Daley Thompson, England's other world athletics champion, in the controversy over Thompson's failure to appear at the press conference at the 13th Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh.

Cram said he understood the feelings of Thompson, who has been accused by Mr Colin Shields, a press liaison officer, of abusing him while refusing to go to the customary press conference after his decathlon victory.

Cram said: "We all get to the stage when we don't want to talk to the press. We all know what Daley is like. It depends in what mood you catch him. Daley devotes hours and hours every day to his event. He is first and foremost an athlete."

"We try to make people realize that athletes are not press stars. We do not necessarily have to be good at press conferences."

Thompson declined to comment on reports that he had been abusive to Mr Shields, a vice-president of the Scottish Amateur Athletic Association.

Mr Gordon Wright, the England team manager, said: "Daley twice refused to give an interview but he denies some of the words that were printed."

● Sebastian Coe, twice Olympic 1,500 metres champion, is expected to withdraw from the Commonwealth Games today because of a throat infection. He was still in bed yesterday after struggling through his 800 metres semi-final on Monday.

Games reports, pages 30, 32

Moves to save Irish agreement

By Sheila Gann

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, held a private meeting in London last night in an attempt to salvage the Anglo-Irish agreement.

The eight-month-old agreement, threatened by violent opposition from Ulster Unionists, was put under additional strain by Mr Barry's outburst against an Orange parade through the Roman Catholic area of Portadown earlier this month.

Last night's meeting was called at short notice under the auspices of the Anglo-Irish conference and attended only by Mr King, Mr Barry and their officials.

Security, and where responsibility for it should lie, was believed to be at the heart of the discussions. Irish Government ministers are also believed to be suspicious at the lack of progress on the agreement; Ulster Unionists are not convinced that the Irish police are doing everything possible to improve cross-border security.

Patten holds back on teachers' pay

By Mark Dowd

Mr Chris Patten, Minister of State for Education, yesterday thwarted teachers' expectations of a swift government response to the pay deal reached in Coventry on Monday.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Professional Association of Teachers in Manchester, Mr Patten said: "The Government will have to consider the outcome of the Acas negotiations and examine the agreement in full before making any response."

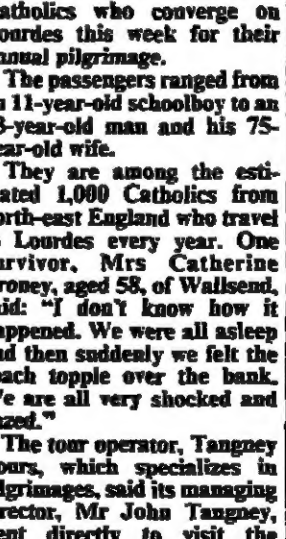
The deal, signed by five of the six teaching unions, would add 7 per cent to teachers' pay in addition to the interim 5.7 per cent agreed last May and would take effect from January 1987.

Mr Patten said that the Government was committed to a better paid, better trained teaching profession, "but, equally, no one should think that the Government will be willing to sign a blank cheque."

Reiterating Mr Kenneth Baker's words to the Education Select Committee last Tuesday, he spoke of the need for "uninterrupted, high quality education."

Mr Patten refused to be

Continued on page 16, col 8



Mr Patten: Committed to better pay

If you've got money, what are you worried about?

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"You can take it that the board will not be giving a licence if one is applied for," he said.

Irish court rules £8m hoard must go to finders

By Richard Ford

A hoard of treasure valued at £8 million was ordered yesterday to be returned to a businessman and his son who discovered it in an Irish bog using a £100 metal detector.

The luck of the Irish touched Mr Michael Webb when he and his son went prospecting near a fifth-century church ruin in Co Tipperary and uncovered an altar set regarded as one of the country's richest treasures of the early Christian period.

But the High Court ruling that the "Derrynafin Hoard" be given back to Mr Webb, of Clonmel, Co Tipperary, and his son Michael, aged 22, has put into doubt the state's right to ownership of treasure trove and will be contested in the Republic's Supreme Court.

The Webbs had sued the state claiming ownership of the altar set: a golden jewelled chalice, a paten, a wine strainer and a 2ft-wide bronze bowl. They found it at Littleton bog, Killemaute, in 1980.

The Webbs had also requested adequate compensation for the find rather than the £10,000 (about £9,000) offered by the Government for what experts consider one of the most significant discoveries of early Christian art. It is now one of the prize exhibits in the National Museum in Dublin.

Mr Webb and his son climbed into a ditch with their detector. When its signal suggested a find, they dug 10in below the turf and found the bowl. The rest of the treasure was 3ft below.

During the eight-day hearing in Dublin's High Court Mr Webb said he had not seen a plaque on the wall of a ruined church near by stating that it was a national monument. He disagreed that it had been "almost a sacrilege" for a non-expert to excavate with a metal detector so near to a ruin.

It was argued, for the state, that the Webbs had committed an offence by excavating near a national monument without the consent of the Commissioner of Public Works or the landowners.

It was also claimed for the state that as it had bought the land on which the hoard was discovered for £250,000, it owned the altar set, and that because of the high content of gold and silver in the discovery it should be considered treasure trove.

Yesterday in his reserved judgement Mr Justice Blayney said that the restoration work on the hoard had greatly increased its value and that the difference between its value on discovery and now should be paid to the state by the Webbs.

That figure is not to be decided until the next law term begins. Dr Brendan O'Riordan, the museum's director, said: "We will appeal."

He added that there was no possibility of the hoard being exported or sold for export, since a licence for such a purpose could be given by the Government only if approved by the museum board.

Informer given new identity is sentenced for armed robbery

By Craig Seton

A police informer who gave evidence against 14 alleged terrorists in Northern Ireland was sentenced yesterday to 12 years in prison for armed robbery in England, where the security services had provided him with a new identity and a new life at a secret address.

Armed police were on duty at Nottingham Crown Court when John Joseph Graham, aged 40, of Derby, appeared with three other men. Graham gave evidence as Joseph Bennett at one of Northern Ireland's biggest "supergrass" trials in Belfast in 1983 when 14 alleged members of the banned Ulster Volunteer Force were sentenced to a total of 200 years on terrorist charges. Their convictions were quashed 18 months later.

Yesterday Graham admitted twice robbing Mr Arthur Whittaker, a Derby bookmaker at his betting shop in July 1983 and at his home in February this year, in which a total of £10,000 was stolen. He also admitted conspiring to rob the National Westminster Bank at Duffield, Derbyshire. No reference was made to Graham's past by the prosecution but Mr John Milmo, QC, for the defence, said that he had been sentenced to 12 years

Missing woman on yacht safe

Anne Miller, the lone Scottish yachtswoman who has arrived safely in the Azores, said yesterday that she had guided her yacht through a four-day storm without asking for help, unaware that aircraft had ships were searching for her.

"I didn't call for help and I didn't want help. I was quite capable of handling things myself," she said. Miss Miller, aged 26, from Edinburgh, set out from Bermuda on June 26, heading for Scotland. She had been missing for three weeks when she sailed into the port of Horta on the island of Faial for repairs. She found out about the search after telephoning her parents in the village of Achiltibuie, Ross and Cromarty.

She said that she must have been below deck when a merchant ship sighted her sloop. She had no radio schedule and her radio silence was perfectly normal. She said of the storm: "It was a near thing. The storm stove in a window of the cabin and the boat became waterlogged. I didn't get much sleep for four days and I was bailing out water sometimes."

She added: "Things were never out of control. I was quite capable of handling it."

Miss Miller, a full-time yachtswoman who lives on her boat, said that she hoped the incident would not be used by people opposed to singlehanded ocean sailing.

Tory ranks diminish as election nears

By George Hill

This week's decision by Mr Patrick Jenkin to leave Parliament at the next election brings to six the number of Mrs Thatcher's former Cabinet ministers who have decided to end their parliamentary careers.

It raises to at least 31 the list of Tory members who have declared that they will not be standing again - one in 12 of the party's current parliamentary strength.

Whatever the Conservative Party's fortunes at the next election, it is already clear that many members prominent in its councils for many years will be absent when the House meets again.

For some, the decision simply rests on their age at the end of the next parliament, which could still be sitting in 1992. For others who have run out of hope for political advancement, the opportunities open to former Tory MPs in the world of business grow more alluring.

Although six of Mrs Thatcher's former Cabinet ministers mean to go, at least four of the seven others whom she has dropped since 1979 are planning to remain.

Some, like Mr Cecil Parkinson and Mr Leon Brittan, have hopes of being restored to their former posts, while others, like Sir Ian Gilmour and Mr Michael Heseltine, have fastened their ambitions on a post-Thatcher era.

Of the six who mean to go, only Sir Keith Joseph, former Secretary of State for Social Services, and Secretary of State for Education until this year, departs in the full glow of the Prime Minister's goodwill.

Mr Humphrey Atkins resigned from the Foreign Office with Lord Carrington after the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands.

Mr Francis Pym, appointed as Lord Carrington's short-term replacement although he was making no secret of his lack of sympathy for the Government's economic poli-

TAKING OFF

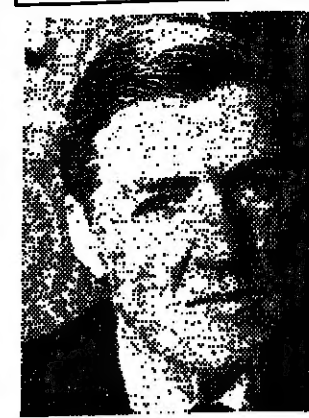


Sir Keith Joseph



Sir Humphrey Atkins

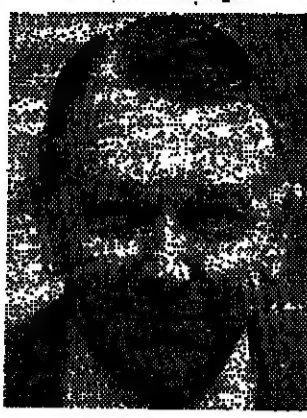
HANGING ON



Mr Cecil Parkinson



Mr Leon Brittan



Mr Francis Pym



Mr James Prior



Sir Ian Gilmour



Mr Michael Heseltine



Mr Norman St John-Stevens



Mr Patrick Jenkin

House and Minister for the Arts, was dropped for making jokes. Mr Jenkin was discarded after his loyal struggles to give shape to the local government legislation, on a just but cold calculation that he had exhausted his political utility in the process.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon, who was Secretary of State for the Environment before Mrs Thatcher's day, Sir Edward du Cann, former party chairman and Economic Secretary to the Treasury, and Mr Peter Thomas, Secretary of State for Wales from 1976-1974, also plan to depart.

So do several former junior ministers, including Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Consumer Affairs Minister from 1979-

1982, Sir Anthony Kershaw, former junior minister in the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence, and now chairman of the backbench committee on foreign affairs, and Sir Peter Mills, a junior minister in the Northern Ireland Office from 1972-1974.

In addition, a growing list of backbenchers have announced that they will not be standing again.

They include Lord Cranborne, MP for Dorset South, Sir Edward Gardner, MP for Fylde and chairman of the Society of Conservative Lawyers, and Sir William Vane Sandhu, second Church Estates Commissioner, as well as pillar of the 1922 Committee like Sir Walter Clegg and Sir John Osborn.

Chemical weapons dilemma for Nato

US plans wartime bases

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The United States is believed to have completed contingency arrangements for the wartime deployment of chemical weapons in some European Nato countries, including Britain.

When Congress agreed to a resumption of production of materials this autumn for modern chemical weapons, it attached conditions. They included that there should be a formal request from Nato for the US to take this action, but also that contingency plans should be laid for wartime deployment.

That presented a delicate political problem for the nations which might have to receive the weapons because of fear that any firm commitment could stir up protest groups.

What appears to have happened is that detailed contingency plans have been drawn up at military level in Nato, without requiring formal ministerial approval, or even direct knowledge.

It is thought that at political level there will be a rather vague understanding expressing a willingness to consider

receiving chemical weapons in war, and if there seemed a danger of Nato coming under chemical attack, but leaving the recipient countries with the option of refusal.

It is not known how many Nato countries are involved in these arrangements, but they will almost certainly include Britain and West Germany. They will not include Norway, Denmark or The Netherlands, which all expressed reservations about the US plan.

If the Congressional programme is adhered to, the US will begin manufacturing materials this autumn, but will not actually produce the weapons until 12 months later.

Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, made a flight yesterday in a Hawkeye while on a visit to Sicily. He has also flown in Nimrod and in the Boeing Awacs, which is another candidate to replace Nimrod.

GEC has until September 3 to show that it can overcome the problems that have dogged the Nimrod project. It claims to have made great progress with the aircraft's electronic systems and is already able to demonstrate much of that progress on ground-based test rigs.

But it is not yet clear whether it will be able to demonstrate that fully in the air by September 3.

The Secretary of State for Defence, Mr George Younger, does not expect to be able to make a decision on the future of the project until about October, so it is possible that the results of flight testing by GEC into September will be able to be taken into account when a decision is reached.

The Government last week banned such transactions. The High Court hearing is expected in November, and the company has agreed not to allow the money to be spent until the case has been heard.

The money was handed to Sattman Developments (Number 18), one of 44 Sattman companies set up for Conservative and Labour councils to help them to avoid being forced to return unspent capital allocations.

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Council to challenge GLC 'gift'

By Hugh Clayton and Lawrence Lever

Hillingdon yesterday became the first London borough to issue a court challenge to the use of the "absent millions" signed away in the final moments of the Greater London Council before Easter.

Mr Justice McCowan gave Hillingdon leave to challenge the transfer of £78 million from the GLC to a private company, which by-passed the London Residuary Body, the quango set up to manage many GLC tasks after the council was abolished.

The residuary body is itself mounting a more limited challenge for £45 million that was signed away in two cheques in the final working hours of the GLC on Monday Thursday.

Hillingdon, in north-west London, was a Conservative party bastion until the May elections in which Labour came within one seat of power. The decision by the hung borough council to go to court was taken by a two-to-one vote in an "emergency committee" of three councillors representing the three political groups.

Hillingdon was not one of the 14 London boroughs nominated by the GLC for money to renovate council homes.

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'Plot' to undermine Peacock

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The Government conspired to undermine the proposals of the Peacock committee on the future of broadcasting, it was claimed at a Royal Television Society symposium yesterday.

Mr Samuel Brittan, assistant editor of the *Financial Times* and a member of the committee, said that the Government had leaked parts of the report and then denigrated it before its publication on July 3.

Mr Quentin Thomas, head of the Home Office broadcasting department, denied the claim. He said: "There was no desire to do anything other than to allow the report to find its proper level in the market place of public debate."

Mr Alastair Milne, BBC director-general, opposed the committee's proposal that the licence fee be indexed to the inflation rate. He said that if this had happened over the past 10 years, the BBC would be £200 million poorer.

Mr John Whitney, director-general of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, opposed Peacock suggestions for putting ITV franchises to competitive tender.

Lord Bonham Carter, a former deputy chairman of the BBC, said that when the Peacock committee failed to find a way of financing the BBC by advertising, its conclusions were of no interest to the Government, and the report was shelved.

Professor Alan Peacock, committee chairman, said that to a large extent the speakers represented producers who were worried about facing "the bracing air of competition".

He was being kept overnight for observation in St Charles Hospital, North Kensington, where his condition was said to be fair.

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Passengers robbed as gang take over bus

Police are hunting a 25-strong gang of teenagers who took over the top deck of a London bus and attacked and robbed passengers.

The gang got on the 171 bus in Camberwell at about 9pm on Sunday. Some of the gang blocked the stairway to allow the rest to move on to the upper deck. Passengers and a bus inspector were punched and other passengers were robbed of money, credit cards and jewellery.

The attackers ran off in the direction of Peckham when the bus stopped in Dagmar Road, Camberwell. Police believe the gang had an alibi and are linking the takeover of the bus with an attempted robbery by a gang in an underpass at the Elephant and Castle five days before.

Pension fund paper money

The £319 million pension fund for Derbyshire County Council employees has become the largest stakeholder, so far, in the new left-of-centre national Sunday paper, *News on Sunday*, with a £260,000 investment.

Manchester City Council said yesterday it could pay up to a further £270,000 to help to set up the newspaper, which is due to be launched in the spring. The council has already paid £63,000 towards a feasibility study.

Murder police arrest man

A youth aged 19 was arrested yesterday by Bournemouth police hunting a double murderer.

The murder inquiry was launched on Monday evening when the body of Mrs Alida Goode, aged 49, was found in Shelton Road, Southbourne. A little later, Mr Clive Rattine, a plumber, who would have been 54 yesterday, was stabbed to death near his home in Iford Lane, Bournemouth.

Press warned on M15 book

Newspapers which threatened to publish material about M15 based on the book by Mr Peter Wright could face court proceedings even if they were not subject to injunctions, Lord Haleham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said yesterday.

During question time in the House of Lords, he was asked by Lord Jenkins of Putney (Lab) why the Government had sought injunctions against *The Guardian* and *The Observer*.

Parliament, page 4

Phones to aid village chat

About 28,000 customers in 170 villages will soon be able to transfer calls from one house to another, have a telephone conference and telephone others on the village exchange using short codes, under a British Telecom modernization programme.

Under the plans, communities of fewer than 600 people will have the new electronic exchanges installed at a total cost of £7 million.

Search finds composer

Sir Lennox Berkeley, aged 83, one of Britain's leading composers, was found exhausted and wandering along Oxford Street yesterday after disappearing from his London home on Monday morning. Police had mounted a search for him.

He was being kept overnight for observation in St Charles Hospital, North Kensington, where his condition was said to be fair.

Police raid on solicitors

Detectives investigating an alleged fraud surrounding the redevelopment of a seaside hotel into flats have swooped on six addresses in Sussex, Surrey and London.

The Sussex police commercial unit seized documents from private homes and two solicitors' offices as part of their investigation which started several months ago after irregularities appeared in mortgage dealings.

Firm cleared

The City of London police will not prosecute after inquiries into fraud allegations by Mr Brian Sedgemoor, the Labour MP, over a £2 million loan obtained by the offshore company, Ravensbury Investments, from Johnson Matthey Bankers prior to its collapse in 1984.

Escape over

Jan Collingwood, aged 26, one of three prisoners who escaped over the wall of Cardiff prison eight days ago, gave himself up at the city's main police station yesterday. The others are still being sought.



He's a Royal Naval Reserve Officer. He spent last weekend training to defend his country. Could you do the same?

The Royal Naval Reserve needs young men to train in their spare time to become Seaman Officers. If you are between 18 and 26, would like to go to sea and learn to 'drive' one of our new specialised minesweepers or fast patrol craft, you might be the kind of person we are looking for.

You needn't have sea-going experience to start with. You need to be fit though, and have determination, leadership qualities and 2 'A' levels and 3 'O' levels (including Maths and English Language), or equivalent.

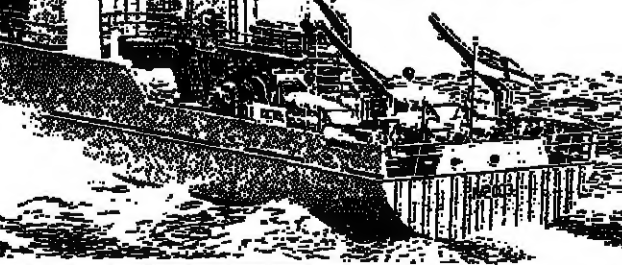
There is a special entry if you are studying at University near an RNR unit. Your training would take up one or two evenings a week, some weekends and two weeks a year.

In return you would get a rewarding spare-time activity, learn new skills, make new friends and enjoy a good social and recreational life.

In addition you would earn good pay for the time you put in with us plus an annual tax-free bounty of up to £455.

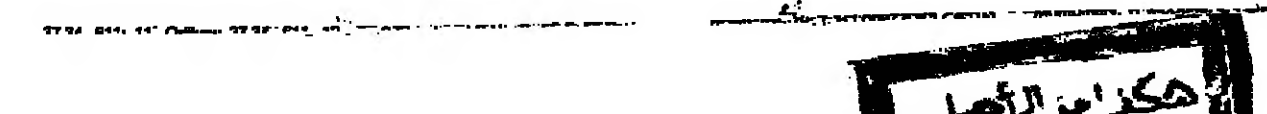
*Up to age 30 if you are a graduate. Former Merchant Navy Officers up to 35 years and former RNR Officers up to 45 years can also be considered.

So if you are interested and would like to know more about the Royal Naval Reserve fill in the coupon and send it to Captain P H Wright RN, Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command (TA2(R)), HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LR and he will send you further details.



The Captain P H Wright RN, Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command (TA2(R)), HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LR. Please send me, without obligation, full details about becoming a Seaman Officer in the RNR. Name: BLOCK CAPITALS Address: Postcode: Date of birth: (mm/yyyy) **ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE**

Normally you should have been a UK resident for the past 5 years.



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Mr George was

He was being kept overnight

Police raid on solicitors

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Firm cleared

The City of London police will

Escape over

Jan Collingwood, aged 26, one

A firm of London yesterday clear

BMA urges 'no fault' compensation for victims of negligence

By Thomson Press

The British Medical Association yesterday called for a state-funded scheme to provide compensation on a "no fault" basis for victims of medical negligence.

It said that doctors were increasingly practising "defensive medicine" to protect themselves from being sued by patients.

The BMA is seeking support from politicians, the legal profession and the general public for the scheme. But it said yesterday: "We are not trying to protect negligent doctors from the consequences of their actions."

Dr Maurice Burrows, chairman of a BMA working party which investigated the possibility of such a system, said: "We think the patient should still have the right to go to court. But the present legal system is too costly and too prone to delay, and too capricious in its operation to be effective."

Doctors are increasingly worried about the rising number of complaints and negligence claims against them.

The number of complaints from NHS hospital patients rose from 16,000 in 1982 to 22,000 last year. About 7,000 of those concerned clinical issues.

Most cases occur in orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, according to Dr Linda Matthews, who has done research for the BMA.

Although the level of damages paid was comparatively low in Britain, "many doctors still fear the stigma of being implicated in a negligence case", she said.

A charity, Action of Victims of Medical Accidents, set up five years ago, has dealt with claims from 2,000 patients, about a quarter of which have been referred to lawyers, and demand now far exceeds its present capacity.

Doctors' insurance premiums have risen by 16 per cent this year. The doctors are becoming more afraid of American-style litigation, which often results in courts awarding "astronomical" damages, Dr Burrows said.

Because of such fears, many were practising "defensive medicine" in which they would seek ways of treating patients other than by surgery, in case something went wrong, or would send the patient for expensive investigations, such as X-rays, to protect themselves against later complaints that they had not done all they might in reaching a diagnosis.

The BMA in 1983 set up a working party headed by Dr Burrows to investigate "no-fault compensation" systems in Sweden and New Zealand.

The systems entitle any patient who suffers injury due to a medical accident, to automatic compensation without proof of fault. Costs are met by the State through taxation.

The working party recommended such a system but the BMA initially felt that it would be too difficult to introduce in Britain.

However, the association's annual representative meeting this year voted for a further review of the scheme. The BMA is now seeking meetings with the Law Society and other legal bodies to discuss it.



William "The Refrigerator" Perry, the 22-stone defensive tackle for the Chicago Bears American football team, in training at the Crystal Palace Sports Centre yesterday in preparation for Sunday's gridiron match against the Dallas Cowboys at Wembley Stadium. Perry, or "Fridge", as he is known, is called, got his nickname when he was in college. "I got into a lift and just filled the thing up," he said. The 120-strong Bears party ate

their way through 10 types of cereal, yogurt, buttermilk, cheeses, sausages, ham and 300 eggs at breakfast yesterday, although Perry, aged 23, a keen restaurant goer, pronounced the eggs, "a little on the watery side". The Wembley encounter, called the American Bowl, will be televised live to the United States, with the Cowboys set to average a 44-0 defeat at the hands of the Bears last season.

Photograph: Suresh Karadia

Mortgage defaulters increase by half

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Rising unemployment since 1979 and easier credit has led to a substantial increase in mortgage arrears and repossessions by building societies, according to the Building Societies Association's Fact Book 1986, published today.

In 1985 the number of repossessions went up by more than half compared with the previous year, from 10,870 to 16,770. The scale of the increase is shown by the fact that in 1979 the number of repossessions was 2,530, rising to 7,320 in 1983. During 1985 repossessions increased from 7,380 in the first half of the year to 9,390 in the second half.

Commenting on the figures, the association says the main factor affecting the growth of arrears and repossessions since 1979 has been the sharp increase in unemployment and the consequent reduction in incomes.

Building societies and professional bodies in the housing field have been increasingly concerned in recent months about the relaxation of the lending guidelines in the present competitive climate, which has led to loans of up to four times the salary compared with the more normal 2.5 or three times.

The figures are based on the returns from the largest mortgage lenders, which accounted for 84.4 per cent of all outstanding mortgages at the end of 1985, and which have been grossed up to represent the whole industry.

BR plans 100 new unmanned crossings

By Michael McCarthy

More than 100 barrier-less automatic level crossings of the type concerned in the weekend accident in Humber-side in which nine people died are being planned by British Rail.

Most are to be in the Eastern Region where the flat landscape is considered more suitable.

It was at an Eastern Region crossing, at Lockington, near Beverley, in Humberside, that Saturday's accident occurred when a passenger train smashed into a van.

The installation of all such crossings has been suspended pending the outcome of a Department of Transport inquiry set up as a result of increasing official concern.

There were two fatal accidents at barrier-less crossings in the two months preceding the Lockington crash. They have frequently been the subject of local opposition.

Yesterday, figures showed for the first time the future extent of open crossings. At least 106 of the barrier-less type are planned. Under it, 462 manned crossings will become automatic operations.

Ninety-seven will be in Eastern Region, eight in Scotland and one in Wales, at Pantyffnon, near Llanelli. The London Midland and Southern regions, which respectively have 11 and 8 crossings scheduled for automatic operation, have not decided which, if any, will be open crossings.

The inquiry on the nine Lockington train crash victims was opened at Hull yesterday and adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Det Sergeant David Taylor told Mr Trevor Green, the Humberside Coroner, that he was satisfied that all the victims had been properly identified.

Seven survivors are in hospital.

£175,000 to save grouse

A total of £175,000 has been spent on buying a farm in north Staffordshire to preserve a tiny colony of black grouse. The largest contribution, of £95,000, has been made by the Nature Conservancy Council.

About 15 rare black grouse have been breeding at the 182-acre Big Fernyford Farm at Swallow Moss, near Leek, Staffordshire, where a dispute broke out because the farmer wanted to plough the land which would have interfered with the birds.

£30m 'needed for publicity on Aids'

By Our Science Correspondent

The Government should be spending many millions of pounds more on warnings about Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) to prevent rapid spread of the disease throughout Britain, the College of Health said yesterday.

Lord Young of Darlington, chairman of the college, said that £30 million a year was needed for a publicity campaign, with at least as much again to educate National Health Service workers about the risks of catching the disease, and to demolish misconceptions about it.

The Government is at present spending £2 million a year on an Aids publicity campaign, but Lord Young said: "It is not hard-hitting, explicit or frank enough and it needs to be extended to television as well as newspapers. The Government has done too little, too late and is not in line with public opinion."

Action was needed in every health district of the country. "The disease is spreading out of London and into the provinces quite rapidly. If we don't act soon, the prospects are going to be very grim."

Lord Young, originator of the Open University and the Consumers' Association, was launching a document outlining the college's case for increases in government spending. The college is an independent body which provides health information and encourages better public use of the National Health Service.

The Government's chief medical officer, Sir Donald Acheson, said last week that the publicity campaign was having "encouraging" results, according to an interim study. By the end of May there were 362 cases of Aids in Britain, of whom just over half had died. About 20,000 others are believed to be infected with the Aids virus.

Hypnotist blamed for legal fight

A bicycle retailer was persuaded into a hopeless legal battle with Raleigh, the cycle makers, after being injected with "Jaffie juice", the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Mr George Waterson, aged 49, claimed that a letter started the collapse of L. H. Brooks, his successful retail business.

He told the medical disciplinary committee that the letter was written by Mr Steven Ledger, an accountant, whom he employed on the recommendation of Dr Joseph Jaffe, a hypnotist. It was typed by Dr Jaffe's secretary.

Mr Waterson, of Arthor Road, Hale, Cheshire, said that he signed his name after Dr Jaffe had injected him with the "Jaffie juice" on the morning of March 11, 1982 as part of the five-year treatment which cost up to £60,000 in fees.

He said: "The letter required my signature and provoked the collapse of my business. Prior to Ledger's appointment I would never have sent such a provocative letter."

But Mr Waterson, when cross-examined by Mr Anthony Arledge, QC, counsel for Dr Jaffe, would not say that he thought Dr Jaffe had "interfered" in his business.

He said: "I can only point out that major decisions were made in 1981 and 1982 while my judgement was impaired. I am left with the doubt as to whether my decision-making was my own or whether it was affected either by drugs or by Dr Jaffe's suggestions."

Dr Jaffe, of Sheepfoot Lane, Prestwich, Manchester, appears before the General Medical Council disciplinary committee accused of brainwashing his patient and leaving him addicted to an unknown drug.

Among other charges, he is alleged to have interfered in Mr Waterson's domestic and business affairs. The case continues.

People giving up meat, poll shows

By Hugh Clayton

More people are giving up meat, according to a Gallup poll published yesterday. The trend is strongest among young women and among students of both sexes.

Mr Gregory Sams, whose meatless burger company commissioned the poll, said: "We are seeing a trend away from meat and two veg as a cornerstone of our diet."

The poll of almost 4,000 people showed a steady rise during the past three years in the number of people giving up meat and those eating less red meat. Some of the latter have switched to chicken. Eleven per cent of those questioned ate as much meat as they could, while 25 per cent ate it occasionally, 3 per cent avoided red meat.

GIVING UP MEAT: THE TRENDS

Vegetarian	All men	All women	Women aged 16-24	Total
(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
1984	2.1	1.6	2.6	4.8
1985	2.5	1.9	3.0	5.9
1986	2.7	2.1	3.4	6.2
Eating less meat	1.9	1.7	2.2	3.6
1984	2.6	2.1	3.0	4.0
1985	3.1	2.1	3.9	6.2

Source: Gallup

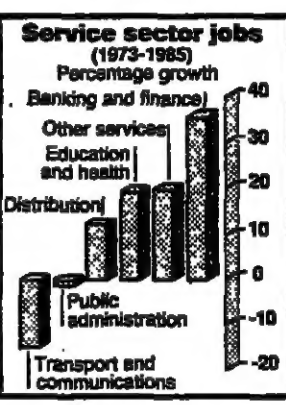
Use of computers brings job boom

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

There has been a boom in job opportunities for professional and skilled workers through the increasing use of computers, according to a study from the Technical Change Centre.

The centre, in London, which monitors how society is adapting to technology, says that these workers now account for more than half of the numbers employed in the service industries.

The study says: "While employment and investment in public services have fallen over the last 10 years, there has been strong growth in employment, investment and output in the financial and business services sector — a sector in which computer technology plays a major part."



"Overall the strongest growth has been in highly-skilled personal services, professional, managerial, and supervisory occupations." The Employment Effects of Microelectronics in the UK Service Sector. (The Technical Change Centre, 114 Cromwell Road, London SW7 4ES; £10).

Office sunbathers run high skin cancer risk

Office workers who occasionally sunbathe could be running the risk of contracting a skin cancer, according to a survey released yesterday. The nationwide report, from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS), shows that malignant melanoma is high among clerical workers.

It is thought to be related to exposure to sunlight, especially sunbathing by those who normally work indoors. More than 170 causes of death among people in 550 occupations are analysed in the nationwide survey of occupational mortality conducted in 1979-80 and 1982-83.

It says there is a possible link between cervical cancer in women and the jobs of their husbands. Women particularly at risk in the 20-59 age group are the wives of welders, scaffolders, bus, coach and lorry drivers, servicemen and ships crews.

"Strimmer rash" is the term doctors are using to describe a new form of dermatitis caused by using power tools which reduce weeds to shreds within minutes. It is reaching "epidemic proportions", according to Dr Chris Lovell, a skin specialist at the Royal United Hospital, Bath. Those at greatest risk are gardeners wearing shorts who tackle undergrowth on a sunny day.

The rash is caused by plant substances called psoralens, which damage the skin when exposed to the ultraviolet rays of sunlight. The vigorous action of trimmers creates an aerosol of plant chemicals which may be absorbed on to the skin of scantily clad gardeners, Dr Lovell said.

Dr Jaffe, of Sheepfoot Lane, Prestwich, Manchester, appears before the General Medical Council disciplinary committee accused of brainwashing his patient and leaving him addicted to an unknown drug.

Among other charges, he is alleged to have interfered in Mr Waterson's domestic and business affairs. The case continues.

Boy George fined over drug

Boy George was fined £250 yesterday after admitting possessing an unspecified amount of heroin.

The pop singer, aged 25, who confessed to having had a £200 a week habit, later said: "My message to kids is to give the drugs up."

Boy George was greeted by hundreds of fans when he arrived at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, west London, for the 20-minute hearing.

He was arrested on July 12 after a police raid on an address in Aberconwy Close, Maids Vale, north London.

The court was told that the singer, charged in his real name of George O'Dowd, had confessed to taking heroin when questioned by police.

Fining him, Mr Geoffrey Noel, the magistrate, said: "I think it is right to say that you faced up to this charge manfully."

Mr Noel, who gave the singer seven days to pay, said he was treating him as he would any other defendant. After the hearing, Boy George said: "I am very pleased it is all over, I think."



Boy George with his mother after yesterday's court hearing in London (Photograph: Graham Wood).

The magistrate was very fair," the singer, who voluntarily submitted to treatment at a drugs clinic, said that he was definitely off drugs now.

Mr Ted Garrett, Labour MP for Walsend, said: "This decision makes a mockery of police efforts to eliminate drugs."

Mr Peter Bruniavels, Conservative MP for Leicester East, described the fine as "laughable".

Solicitors not negligent in cockle secrets case

A firm of London solicitors was yesterday cleared in the High Court of negligence in its handling of a court case aimed at protecting the secrets of cockle bottling.

Mr Justice Rose, ruled that Herbert Smith and Co was not negligent in the way that it handled a case brought by Mr Leslie Parsons, aged 71, owner of a South Wales cockle and mussel bottling company.

The judge, who rejected much of Mr Parsons's evidence, ordered him to pay the solicitors' outstanding bills, totalling £49,435, as well as the legal costs — thought to amount to at least £150,000 — of the 18-day hearing of his negligence claim.

Mr Parsons, whose company, Leslie A Parsons and Sons, of Burry Port, near Llanelli, bottles three million cockles a

year, had claimed damages against the solicitors, accusing them of failing to prepare expert evidence in his trade secrets action and failing to advise him about a £20,000 settlement offer.

The judge cleared the firm and two of its members, Mr Anthony Willoughby and Miss Lynda Palmer, of negligence on both counts. The cockle-bottling case

arose from the defection of two of Mr Parsons's staff to his rivals, Humber Pickles, of Hull, in 1978.

Mr Parsons accused them of stealing his secret process preparing cockles and turned to Herbert Smith and Co to launch a legal action. The case ended in 1984 with Mr Parsons having to pay £50,000 costs to Humber Pickles.



THE NEW £2 COIN Available from Post Offices now!

To celebrate the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, the Royal Mint is issuing a special commemorative £2 coin.

Never before has the United Kingdom issued a coin to honour a sporting event. It is also the first time the UK has struck a £2 coin in nickel-brass, (the same metal used for the £1 coin) and like the £1 coin it is legal tender. But, unlike the £1 coin, it is not intended for general circulation. It is purely a commemorative issue.

If you would like one or more for yourself, or relatives, simply go along to your nearest Post Office.

You can obtain the standard coin, at face value, for £2. There are also special collector versions available.

For further details, write direct to the Royal Mint, PO Box 500 Cardiff, CF1 1HA.

Royal Mint
TELEPHONE: (0443) 223880.

The edge of the new £2 coin bears the inscription "XIII COMMONWEALTH GAMES SCOTLAND 1986", together with the crown-mint mark of the Royal Mint.

Image of the new £2 coin.

Passengers robbed as gang take over bus
Police are hunting a strong gang of robbers who took over the top deck of a London bus and attacked passengers.
The gang got on the 171 in Cumberwell at about 10.30 on Sunday. Some of the robbers blocked the driver's view from the rear by moving on to the upper deck. Passengers were robbed of money, credit cards and jewellery.
The attackers ran off in the direction of Peckham, where the bus stopped in Upper Road, Camberwell. Police are linking the robbery to a gang of robbers by a gang of robbers at the Peckham bus stop five days before.

Pension fund paper money
The £319 million pension fund for Derbyshire Council employees has come under the most serious attack in the new left-wing movement.
Manchester City Council yesterday said it could pay a further £70,000 to set up the pension fund, which is to be launched in a new newspaper, the Derbyshire Sunday paper, in November.
The pension fund, which is to be set up in the new left-wing movement, is to be set up in the new left-wing movement.

Murder police arrest man
A youth aged 19 was arrested yesterday by Birmingham police hunting a murderer.
The murder inquiry, launched on Monday evening, was the body of Alan Brown, aged 49, was found in a room at the Clive Hotel, Birmingham, who would be charged with the murder of a woman.
The body was found in a room at the Clive Hotel, Birmingham, who would be charged with the murder of a woman.

Press warned on M15 book
Newspapers which are publishing a book on the M15 motorway are being warned by the police that they are breaking the law.
The book, which is being published by a group of journalists, is being warned by the police that they are breaking the law.

Phones to aid village chat
A village in Dorset is to have a public house where people can talk on the phone.
The village, which is in Dorset, is to have a public house where people can talk on the phone.

Search finds composer
A search for a composer has found a man who has been living in a cave for years.
The search, which was conducted by a group of people, found a man who has been living in a cave for years.

Police raid on solicitors
Police have raided a solicitor's office in London, finding a large amount of cash and drugs.
The raid, which was conducted by a group of people, found a large amount of cash and drugs.

Firm cleared
A firm of London solicitors has been cleared of negligence in a court case.
The firm, which is based in London, has been cleared of negligence in a court case.

Escape over
A man has escaped from a prison in Scotland, and is being sought by police.
The man, who is a prisoner in a prison in Scotland, has escaped from the prison and is being sought by police.

Homes protest as Docklands reports on 'a landmark year'

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Local residents demonstrated outside the London Docklands Development Corporation, on the Isle of Dogs, east London, yesterday, as the corporation celebrated its fifth anniversary inside.

The residents, who are seeking more housing for the area which local people can afford, were protesting about the planned building of an international finance centre at Canary Wharf.

Mr Christopher Benson, the corporation chairman, told a press conference that an agreement could be reached in October with a United States consortium for the Canary Wharf development. Construction would start when the docklands light railway extension to the City is finished in 1989.

The London Docklands (City Extension) Bill has its third reading in the House of Lords today.

The 12 million square-foot international finance centre is regarded as a considerable achievement for the corporation, which since 1981 has attracted £1.182 million in private investment for a total expenditure of £279 million. There are now 2,000 companies in docklands, including 300 which have arrived in the past 18 months.

Mr Benson said that 3,594 new homes had been built on LDDC sites and another 2,356 on private land in the docklands area since 1981. A further 9,317 homes were planned or under construction.

Replying to criticism that the housing was too expensive for local people, he said that 50 per cent of all housing in

the docklands had been sold for less than £40,000, of which 40 per cent had gone to local people.

The point had now been reached when land values were such that new houses were not affordable for many people. "We must look at alternatives such as equity sharing, and we are trying to get help from the Government for housing associations. We have also supported three self-build schemes," he said.

The annual report shows that, between 1981 and 1985, jobs in the docklands increased by 3 per cent while employment throughout Britain fell by the same amount. It was a reversal of the previous three years, when docklands jobs fell by 27 per cent. More than 8,000 new jobs had been created since 1981.

Mr Benson said that the last year would be seen as the corporation's most significant, the landmark of change.

"Eyebrows raised a year ago in scepticism are now raised in impressed surprise. The variety of life in docklands is very much the key to its unique character and it is encouraging to watch it increasing by the day." Such variety was a guarantee of rising and stable employment.

The royal docks, described by Mr Reginald Ward, LDDC chief executive, as "Europe's most important urban redevelopment site", was now the focus of attention in the docklands.

Work had started on a £250 million infrastructure scheme for the royal docks, with phase one of the £30 million drainage scheme completed.

Solicitors on bench supported

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society yesterday welcomed backing by the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, for the removal of the present bar on solicitors with suitable experience from being appointed to the High Court bench.

Sir John says in an interview for *Counsel*, the journal of the Bar of England and Wales, that he would like to see solicitors' ineligibility removed on the strict understanding that appointments would be purely on merit and that there would be no question of reverse discrimination.

The present law bars solicitors from promotion to the High Court bench, although they can become recorders and circuit judges.

Sir John said he regarded membership of a particular branch of the profession as a "total irrelevance" in the question of appointment to the High Court bench.

"What matters is suitability in terms of judgement, temperament and experience."

The Law Society said yesterday that even under the present system all lawyers of adequate experience should be eligible for appointment to the High Court bench and above.

Sir John strongly opposes the fusion of both branches of the legal profession.

He said: "You might just as well fuse the professions of doctor, dentist and vet. They have almost as much in common."

11% rise in criminal cases

By Peter Evans

Record numbers of criminal cases were received by crown courts in England and Wales last year. The total of 83,898 was 11 per cent more than in 1984 and the highest increase in a single year, according to statistics published yesterday by the Lord Chancellor's Department. The overall increase in commitments for trial in crown courts since 1979 is now 65 per cent.

The average waiting time between commitment and trial in crown courts for all defendants continues its downward trend. Average waiting times fell by more than a day between 1984 and 1985, from 14.3 weeks to 14 weeks. They show a 20 per cent reduction since 1979, when the average waiting time was 17.6 weeks.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, said yesterday that more circuit judges were being appointed. There are now nearly 380 compared with 305 in 1979.

Judicial Statistics 1985 also shows a 6 per cent rise for the second successive year in petitions filed for dissolution of marriage. Decrees nisi for dissolution increased by 10 per cent in 1985.

The increases, predicted last year, are mainly due to the introduction in 1984 of Part 1 of the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act, the impact of which appears to have passed its peak.

Judicial Statistics 1985 (Cmd 9864, Stationery Office, £11.60).

Number of Jews down by quarter in 30 years

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Jewish population of Britain has declined by almost a quarter in the past 30 years, according to statistics from the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

The figures record a sharp decline in synagogue marriages since 1970, and the rate of such marriages is estimated at only half what it would be if every Jew married another Jew according to the requirements of Judaism.

Jewish "assimilation" — lapsing from Jewish practice and giving up a sense of Jewish identity — is thought to be a significant factor in the fall in the number of Jews, and the trend towards marrying outside the Jewish community is a sign of assimilation.

But the primary reason for the 25 per cent fall in 30 years appears to be a decline in fertility since the 1950s, connected in turn with the pattern of Jewish immigration to Britain earlier still.

The total Jewish population, defined as including the "fringe" with any known connection with Jewish community or religious life, is now said to be about 330,000, compared with the peak figure of 430,000 in the early fifties.

It is based on various calculations, such as synagogue membership and the rate of Jewish burials and cremations.

The number of British citizens with Jewish racial origins who no longer count themselves as Jews is not known.

But the decline in the Jewish population is believed to be a real one, not merely the transfer of large numbers into that unknown category.

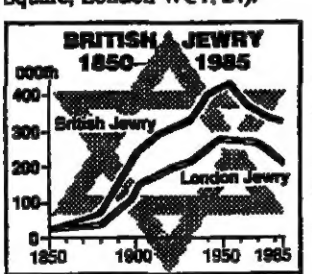
The statistical study, the first of its kind, was prepared for the Research Unit of the board of deputies by two academics, Dr Stanley Waterman and Mr Barry Kosmin.

It shows an ageing population, with 1,300 more deaths than births every year.

Mrs Marietta Schmol, the director of the research unit, said first-generation Jewish immigrants to Britain had much higher birth rates than subsequent generations.

The last large immigration was before the Second World War.

British Jewry in the Eighties (Board of Deputies of British Jews, Woburn House, Tavistock Square, London WC1E 6J).



The average waiting time between commitment and trial in crown courts for all defendants continues its downward trend. Average waiting times fell by more than a day between 1984 and 1985, from 14.3 weeks to 14 weeks. They show a 20 per cent reduction since 1979, when the average waiting time was 17.6 weeks.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, said yesterday that more circuit judges were being appointed. There are now nearly 380 compared with 305 in 1979.

Judicial Statistics 1985 also shows a 6 per cent rise for the second successive year in petitions filed for dissolution of marriage. Decrees nisi for dissolution increased by 10 per cent in 1985.

The increases, predicted last year, are mainly due to the introduction in 1984 of Part 1 of the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act, the impact of which appears to have passed its peak.

Judicial Statistics 1985 (Cmd 9864, Stationery Office, £11.60).

Boy's need to keep eating led to death

A boy aged six, who would eat everything from charcoal to food scraps from dustbins, died when he ate an overdose of paracetamol tablets, an inquest decided yesterday.

A verdict of misadventure was recorded on Brian Middleman, after he was found dead at his home in Mallard Close, Salhouse, Norwich, on July 13, nine days after being released from hospital after taking a similar overdose.

The boy had a voracious appetite due to the emotional trauma of his parents splitting up and other family difficulties and would eat any strange or bizarre foods, including tablets, the inquest was told.

Dr Brencley Knight, a child psychologist, said that the child appeared to be a perfectly normal boy but never cried. Instead, he released his emotions by eating.

Mrs Jane Middleman, aged 23, his stepmother, had difficulty relating to him and there were frequent quarrels when Mr Steve Middleman, aged 23, his father, threatened to leave.

Mrs Middleman said: "Brian would clear every strap from his plate."

Asked if she thought he wanted to take his own life she said: "No."

Recording the verdict Mr James Hipwell, the coroner, said: "If Brian had been an adult I would have said that he took his own life, but on the evidence I find that is not what occurred."



Caroline Drain, aged 24, a drama graduate, of Hamlington Road, York, starting the climb to success yesterday with the £40-a-week government enterprise allowance she has been awarded to set up in business as a clown.

Disposal of waste at sea defended

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Dumping of waste at sea is preferable to expanding disposal sites on land, according to a select committee of the House of Lords.

Its report, published yesterday, is highly critical of an EEC proposal to reduce the amounts of most wastes dumped in the ocean by 50 per cent and to phase out the use of incinerator ships.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Nathan, described the European Commission recommendations as "ill-conceived and inappropriate."

The Commission's proposal was rejected because of the serious environmental impact it would have on Britain, which relies heavily on sea disposal for sewage sludge, dredging spoil and industrial wastes.

The report supported the present policy that wastes should not be disposed of at sea if there is an environmentally preferable alternative on land. However a distinction

was drawn between those of which the polluting effects at sea were reversible and those which were irreversible.

The United Kingdom produced about 40 million tonnes of sewage sludge a year, and about 30 per cent of it was discarded offshore by ships or pipeline, the committee found.

More than 2.5 million tonnes of industrial waste, more than the amount from any other country, went into the sea.

The effect of the EEC proposals would reduce the quantity of sewage sludge disposed of at sea by 10 per cent a year for five consecutive years.

Evidence presented to the committee showed that the impact on the North Sea and the north-east Atlantic from waste dumping was minimal compared with the impact from rivers and atmospheric fallout.

Dumping of Waste at Sea (HL 219) (Stationery Office, £11.60).

BA service fastest to Sydney

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Airways is to launch the fastest regular flights from London to Sydney in October using jumbos powered by the latest Rolls-Royce jets. Stopping only at Bangkok, the flights will take 21 hours 15 minutes, 32 minutes faster than the existing fastest service, Mr Colin Marshall, BA's chief executive, announced in Sydney yesterday.

Faster trips are made possible by a massive upgrading of BA's fleet of 747s, including £100m on fitting the D4 version of Rolls-Royce's RB211 engines to the airline's 12 Series-200 jumbos. That will increase range to 6,300 miles, allowing non-stop flights to Hong Kong and Singapore.

Millions of pounds are being spent on refurbishing cabins on BA's 28 747s in spite of doubts raised by cracks in older fuselages. New galleys and lavatories, improved seating and inflight video entertainment are being installed.

The officers blamed some of the chaos on the transfer of work from the former Greater London Council and said that 195 of the unfilled posts were a result of ongoing disputes with various town hall unions about manning and work conditions.

Lambeth services 'facing collapse'

By Angella Johnson

Up to 100 child abuse and child care cases in the London borough of Lambeth are receiving no attention because staff vacancies have reached such a high level that many of the council's services are in danger of collapse, senior council officials say.

They say that unless urgent measures are taken to recruit more workers the council would be failing in its duty to provide statutory services for local people.

However, the officers also told councillors that even if all the posts were filled, the cost of doing so could throw the council into a financial crisis because it has not budgeted for staff increases this year.

One of the main reasons cited for the acute staff shortage was the complexity of Lambeth's equal opportunity policy which often means that a position takes up to five months to fill.

Mrs Mary Leigh, leader of the Conservative opposition group, described the council's recruitment policy of employing only disabled people to fill vacancies as "impractical" and "almost impossible to implement."

She said: "Because the controlling left-wing Labour group has introduced a policy of only interviewing people with disabilities to fill vacancies, we have reached a situation where shortages are so acute, normal services are breaking down."

Lambeth council began its policy of employing only disabled people in May this year, as part of a programme to allow equal opportunity for different minority groups.

The aim is to increase the number of disabled workers on the council's payroll by discriminating against those who are not.

"There do not seem to be enough suitably qualified disabled people applying for jobs, hence this appalling shortage of staff," she said.

Mrs Leigh gave a warning of dangers, particularly to the elderly and the young if vacancies are not filled soon.

Lambeth council officers said that other areas affected included routine inspections by environmental health officers; repair and building programmes; playgrounds and libraries.

In addition, many of the council's policies, such as housing provision for people aged under 19 years, are not being carried out.

The officers blamed some of the chaos on the transfer of work from the former Greater London Council and said that 195 of the unfilled posts were a result of ongoing disputes with various town hall unions about manning and work conditions.

Ministry pays out £10,000 to investor

By George Hill

An investor who lost £10,000 when a company dealing in stocks and shares failed has been recompensed in full by the Department of Trade and Industry because it renewed the company's licence to trade in spite of evidence that it was unreliable.

A report by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) criticizes the department for failing to act on a report from the Official Receiver into the involvement of two directors of the company in the liquidation of an earlier company.

"As I see it the department's administrative deficiencies were such as to justify their offering redress to the complainant in the sum of £10,000, with an additional sum to compensate for the notional interest lost on the money since he first raised the matter," Mr Anthony Barrowclough QC, the Ombudsman, says in his report. "In accordance with custom it does not name the parties involved."

The department showed a lamentable lack of concern for the interests of those members of the public who, like the complainant, had a right to assume that the department's licensing system offered them a reasonable measure of protection for their investments," the report says.

At first the department replied that it was reluctant to pay compensation, in full because of the shortcomings in its actions had arisen from the inadequacies of its powers at the time. But eventually the Principal Officer agreed in the special circumstances to make the payment on an ex gratia basis.

Four more taken ill on liner

By Trudi McIntosh

Four more passengers were taken ill yesterday with a gastric complaint as the P&O liner, Canberra, sailed towards Majorca, Spain.

A total of 42 passengers and crew have been struck so far by the illness since the liner left Southampton eight days ago, a P&O spokesman said in London yesterday. Most have recovered.

Health officers and scientists on board the ship have found no link between the latest outbreak and the virus that left more than 600 passengers and crew ill on five of the liner's previous cruises.

Scientists believe that the previous outbreaks may have been caused by the Norwalk virus.

Southampton council said that a Southampton Port health officer had reported that the standard of hygiene on board the ship was very high.

Meningitis carrier found

Tests on 350 school pupils after the death from meningitis of Christopher Knight, aged seven, of Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, last Thursday have disclosed a carrier of the disease, health chiefs said yesterday.

Dr James Stewart, Gloucester community medicine registrar, said that the carrier and his family had been treated with antibiotics. The incidence of meningitis in the Stroud area has been 14 times higher than the national average.

Speelman wins easily in British title contest

By Harry Golombek

The 77th British Chess Championship is stronger than ever with four grandmasters and 19 international masters competing.

This is the ninth year that Kleinwort Grievson is sponsoring the event.

Grandmaster Jonathan Speelman, the present champion, had an easy victory in the first round, defeating the young player, Teichmann, in 20 moves. Other candidates for the title are the former British champion, Jonathan Mestel and grandmasters Murray Chandler and James Plaskett.

The results in round one were:

Ward 0, Chandler 1; Speelman 1, Teichmann 0; Carr 0, Flear 1; Mestel 1, Depasquale 0; Emms 1, Hodgson 0; Macdonald 1, Wicker 0; Nicholson 0, Watson 1; King 1, Dunnington 0; Smith 0, Kosten 1; Levitt 0, Adams 1; Agnos 0, Plaskett 1.

The following game is a clear sign that the champion is in good form: White Speelman, black Teichmann. English opening. 1 c4 Nc6, 2 g3 g6, 3 d4 Bg7, N3 d6, 5 d5 Nd5, 6 Qa4 c6, 7 Bd2 Qb6, 8 Nc3 Qb2, 9 Bb1 Qa2, 10 Bc2 Bb7, 11 Qd2 Bb6, 12 Bb4 Bxa3, 13 Nd2 Bf5, 14 Rcl Nf6, 15 Qxa3 Qxa3, 16 Bxa3, and white won.

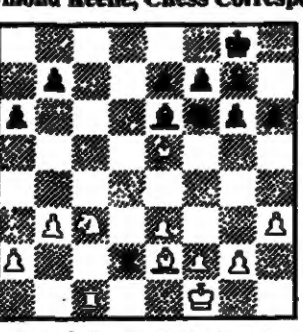
World chess championships Kasparov forces first draw

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

The world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, got off to a good start in the opening game of his title defence against Anatoly Karpov.

Employing as Black the complex Grunfeld Defence for the first time in a game against Karpov, the champion rapidly liquidated the central pawns and exchanged a number of his opponent's aggressively posted pieces.

Although most experts believed that Karpov still held a slight edge, the challenger was obliged to concede a draw when Kasparov penetrated his camp with a long range Rook



advance. In the final situation neither player had chances to win.

The 24-game match, sponsored by Save and Prosper, goes to the player who first

scores six wins, or scores 12½ points, whichever comes first. If the match is tied 12-12, Kasparov retains his title.

All seats were sold out for the first game and an overflow of 200 people was conducted into the Commentary Room, sponsored by *The Times*, to hear Nigel Short's lectures.

Moves: (Karpov, white, moved first): 1 d4 Nf6, 2 c4 g6, 3 Nc3 d5, 4 N3 Bg7, 5 Bf4 c5, 6 dxc5 Qa5, 7 Rcl dxc4, 8 e3 Qxc5, 9 Qa4-Nc6, 10 Bxc4 0-0, 11 0-0 Bd7, 12 Qb5 Qb6, 13 Bc5 Bc6, 14 Rf1 Rf8, 15 h3 b6, 16 Kf1 a6, 17 Bc2 Bc6, 18 Rxd8-Rxd8, 19 Ne3 Nxe5, 20 Bxe5 Rd2, 21 b3. Agreed drawn.

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PARLIAMENT JULY 29 1986

Dangers in the Falklands

FISHING

Prospects for a multinational fishing agreement in the seas around the Falkland Islands had practically disappeared and the situation was now dangerous, Lord Shackleton (Lab) said in the House of Lords. Lord Shackleton's economic surveys of the islands were published in 1976 and 1982.

He said an agreement had been initiated between Argentina and the Soviet Union which would bring the Russians into bases in the Antarctic.

It is so serious now (he continued) that the Government should apply customary law and extend fishing rights at least within the exclusion zone.

Lady Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said the agreement between Argentina and the Soviet Union was initiated earlier this month. But to suggest that the Government had done nothing was unfair and untrue because it still awaited the Food and Agriculture Organization study which would be valuable in telling the Government what was actually happening in the Falkland seas, as opposed to what people might assume was happening.

She told the House that pending agreement on a multinational conservation and

management regime under FAO auspices, voluntary restraint arrangements were made with the nations principally fishing for squid.

International recognition of the need for conservation had grown. Meanwhile, the FAO study, an essential preliminary for negotiations on a multinational regime, had made progress and the first draft was expected in the autumn.

Lord Kinnear (SDP) said that under the agreement 10 per cent of the crews of Soviet fishing vessels would be Argentine nationals and all Russian fishing boats would carry an Argentinean Government official. They would be entitled

to fish within Britain's exclusion zone.

Has the Government (he asked) not accepted the four year delay in getting an international regime in the hope of excluding the Soviet Union from these fisheries?

Lady Young pointed out that this was a protection zone, not an exclusion zone. Only Argentinean warships and military aircraft were excluded from it. It had always been possible for Argentine fishing vessels to enter it.

They have had to seek permission (she added) but there is no reason to think it would not be granted because peaceful activities by Argentinean and Russian fishing vessels pose no threat to the security of the islands.

Lord Campbell of Croy (C), who initiated the exchanges, said he was disappointed that little progress seemed to have been made.

Fishing vessels of many other nations (he said) have been sailing long distances to plunder the riches of these seas without any control.

Unless some action is taken soon, there will be few fish left to be protected.

Lady Young said Britain retained the right to have a unilateral exclusive fishing limit but it was best to work for the widest possible international support for conservation and management in the South West Atlantic.

Antarctic ● **MI5 secrets**

New Guinness plans TAKEOVER PANEL

In support of his proposal for statutory backing for the takeover panel, Lord Williams of Elvel, an Opposition spokesman on the Financial Services Bill, contended in the Lords that the panel were broken by the Guinness company following the takeover bids for Bells plc and Distillers.

His amendment that the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry should appoint a panel to regulate the conduct of takeover offers was rejected during the Bill's committee stage by 161 votes to 79 — Government majority, 82.

He said promises by Guinness that headquarters would be established in Scotland and prominent Scottish financiers appointed to the board had not been kept but that must have influenced shareholders at the time of the takeover bids.

Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the Government was aware of concern over aspects of the Guinness takeover.

Following discussions with the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Malcolm Rifkind), the Governor of the Bank of England and the Stock Exchange, Guinness was intending to put fresh proposals to their shareholders and the takeover panel was looking into whether what had happened was consistent with the rules and spirit of the takeover code.

INJUNCTIONS

Newspapers which were not parties to the court proceedings and not affected directly by the injunction against publishing information about the book by Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 agent, were given a warning by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, in the Lords.

It did not follow that they could publish anything they liked simply because they were

not involved in the injunction itself, he said, because if they threatened to do so they might themselves be made the subject of proceedings.

Lord Jenkins of Farnley (Lab) had asked why the Government had sought and gained an injunction to restrain *The Guardian* and *The Observer* from publishing information about Mr Wright and the book and why other newspapers were not sought to have it.

It also made recommendations to discourage ill-considered claims.

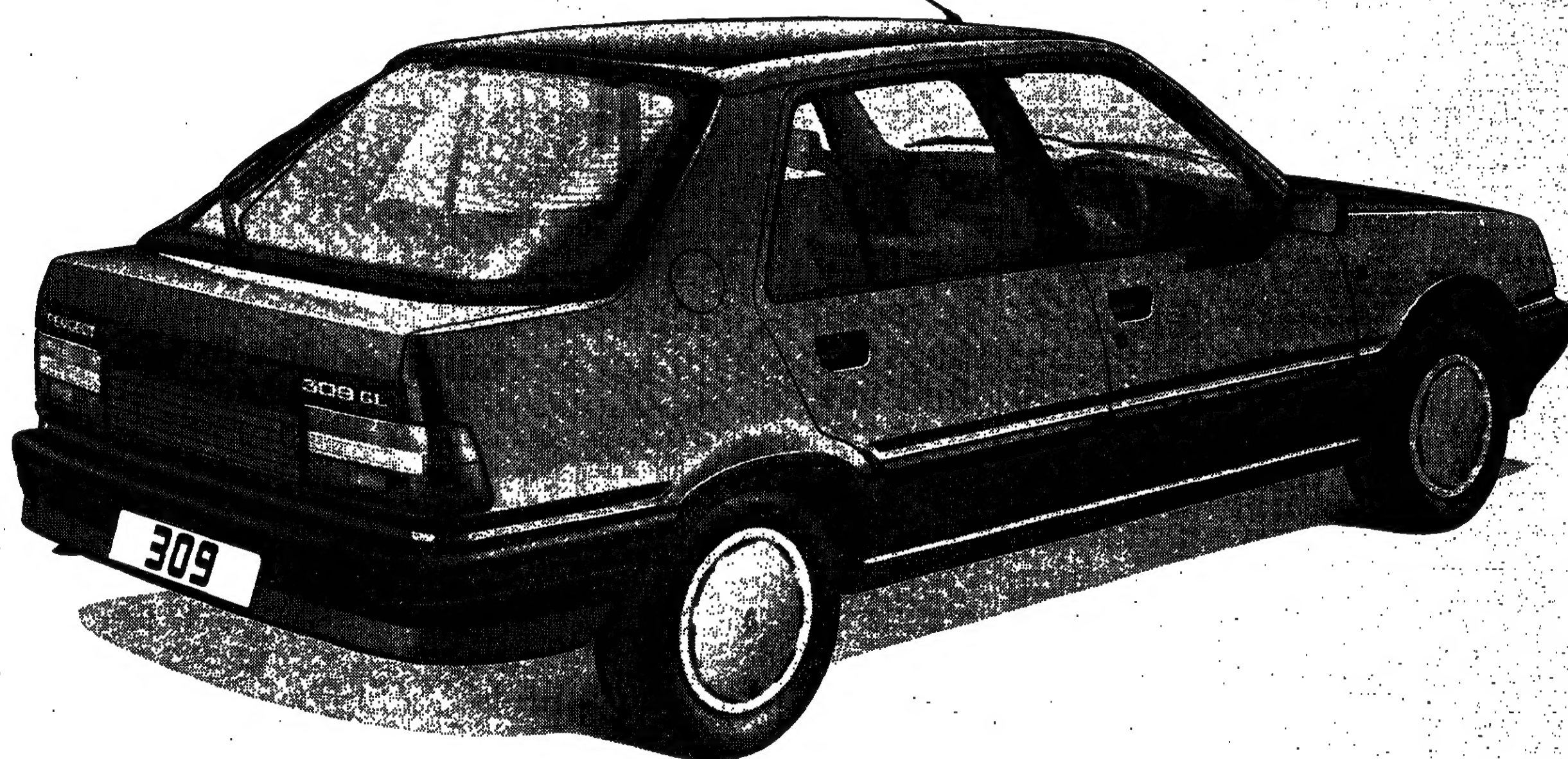
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REPAYMENT PERIOD	12 MTHS	24 MTHS	36 MTHS
FINANCE CHARGES	NIL	434.16	822.48
MONTHLY PAYMENTS	380.92	208.55	149.82
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Soviet attacks renewed in Afghanistan

Delhi greets Gorbachov plan to withdraw troops with scepticism

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The announcement by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, that he is pulling six regiments back to Russia is greeted with a good deal of scepticism here. Diplomats reported yesterday that during the past few days the Russians in Kabul have been mounting a big push against the Mujahidin rebels to the south and south-west.

Significant troop movements were reported heading towards this direction from the Soviet encampment at Khair Khan on July 24 and 26. The first column was led by an armoured column of tanks of a new and unidentified type. One Western embassy yesterday suggested that they could have been a modified form of the T 72 tank.

Crews of the armoured column seemed to mean business as witnesses reported them wearing flak jackets and "slapping ammunition into their machine guns".

Diplomats also reported heavier-than-normal air activity to back up the southern thrust. Helicopter gunships moved southwards on the mornings of July 22 and 23, returning a short time later. On July 25, 29 fixed-wing aircraft were observed heading south, the majority in attack-ready pairs. The next day another 30 helicopters were seen over the capital heading in the same direction.

Flights of heavy transport Antonov 13s and 26s were also observed, including one which a diplomat saw being loaded in a corner of Kabul airport with between 100 and 125 paratroopers in full battle gear.

The fact that Mujahidin have been active south of the capital is shown by reports of a two-hour battle in the Logar valley on July 22, and an

Resumption of the United Nations-sponsored talks on an Afghanistan settlement has been put off by one day until Thursday (AP reports from Geneva).

armoured convoy was ambushed near Pul-e-Aman in the Logar area the next day. Four or five armoured personnel carriers were put out of action and the column was unable to proceed, the diplomats reported, returning instead to Kabul.

In a clash the following day, also in the Logar valley, witnesses claimed that eight or 10 Soviet soldiers were captured by the rebels.

The Soviet push south follows another successful campaign around the capital in the north-west Paghman area. Another clean-up operation in and around the western city of Herat also finished last week.

with what was described by diplomats as heavy damage to the town's buildings.

The victory was marked by a visit to the area of Dr Najib, the General-Secretary of Afghanistan's ruling communist party.

Dr Najib was seen on television in front of the city's main mosque, which had been heavily damaged.

Western diplomats said the announcement on the withdrawal of troops is timed to bring the maximum pressure on Pakistan as its delegation arrives for tomorrow's round of United Nations-sponsored proximity talks in Geneva.

They said its propaganda value is more than worth the sacrifice of manpower as the estimated 6,000 troops the cut-back represents include an anti-aircraft regiment, which cannot have been much value against rebels who have no planes.

Diplomats also said the level of troops in Afghanistan, which they presently estimate at 118,000, is the maximum that Russia can provide logistical support for, and that in any case since the quality of the roads from the Russian border have been improved recently, reinforcements could easily be rushed in from Soviet Central Asia when required.

Peking and Tokyo wait for the deeds

Peking (Reuters) — The Soviet Union's offer of concessions on a number of long-standing Asian problems was cautiously welcomed today by some countries in the region, but Western diplomats said it was up to Moscow to match words with deeds.

China and Japan would only say officially they were studying the troop withdrawal proposals from Mr Gorbachov, but Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, welcomed his reference to an exchange of visits.

"The Soviet Union has calculated such a visit would enable it to make a big diplomatic step," he said.

Western diplomats in Peking said the offer to reduce the number of Soviet troops stationed in Mongolia, a long-time ally of Moscow's, could go a long way to removing an obstacle blocking improvement in Sino-Soviet relations.

"Mr Gorbachov's speech is an estate piece of work, but we'll now have to see what

happens as a result of the fine words. The offer on troops in Mongolia especially could be pointed to by the Soviet Union as being a genuine attempt to meet (China's) demands on the obstacles," said one.

China has said Moscow must withdraw from Afghanistan, cease its support for Vietnam's presence in Kampuchea and reduce its troop concentrations along the Chinese border before political relations, long frosty, can be improved.

The Soviet military presence along the border, estimated by Western experts at about one million men, has been a source of tension for two decades. Observers said it was the easiest of the Chinese obstacles for the Soviet Union to deal with.

Another diplomat said the Chinese would not be impressed by the offer of withdrawals from Afghanistan. "They will regard it as they see Vietnamese withdrawals from Kampuchea as nothing more than troop rotation."

Sit-in continues on Mexican bridge

Juarez, Mexico (UPI) — Supporters of the conservative opposition party say they will continue their sit-in on the main bridge leading to El Paso, Texas, indefinitely.

Owners of restaurants and tourist-related businesses have complained of millions

of dollars in losses and urged demonstrators to reopen the bridge. Industrialists with plants on both sides of the border say they will lose \$2.5 million (£1.7 million) a day if the bridge closure results in a shutdown of factories. Small business men say political

tensions are scaring away US tourists.

But leaders of the National Action Party, or PAN, say they will continue their sit-in until they are dragged off by soldiers, or until the government agrees to nullify the July 6 elections in Chihuahua.

Ramos advises Aquino to keep civilian force

From Keith Dalton, Manila

General Fidel Ramos, the Philippines' Chief of Staff, has told President Aquino that the country's 70,000-strong civilian militia, criticised for widespread human-rights violations, should not be abolished, but, instead, reduced in size and given better training as anti-communist fighters.

General Ramos said that if the force was disbanded at least 9,000 villages, or 22 per cent of the nation's total, would be directly influenced or controlled by the communist New People's Army.

After complaints of rampant killings, kidnappings and tortures by the force, Mrs Aquino ordered an inquiry into the advisability of retaining it.

General Ramos's proposals to reduce it to 53,000 men and institute new and tougher selection processes, improve training techniques and employ regular soldiers to oversee operations were endorsed by Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the Defence Minister.

Paid a monthly "allowance" of \$6.75, the forces' members often become hired guns to local political warlords, bodyguards or gangsters.

● Couple kidnapped: A foreigner and his wife have been seized from the southern Philippine city of Marawi, where a US missionary and 10 Filipino nuns were kidnapped earlier this month but released unharmed (Reuters reports).

Heatwave brings ruin closer for US farm belt

From Paul Valley, Atlanta, Georgia

The heatwave which has gripped the south-east of the United States for the past month and produced the worst drought there for a century is now causing serious economic problems.

If the high temperatures and scanty rainfall continue, as long-range weather forecasts predict, the effect will be devastating. Already the cost of the drought is put at \$2 billion (£1.3 billion). Millions

of chickens and a substantial number of cattle have died. The region's corn and soybean crops have shrivelled.

The cotton yield will be, at the very least, much diminished and predictions for the peanut and pecan harvests are pessimistic. About 75 per cent of some crops have been destroyed.

The drought is having other effects: large rivers are becoming unnavigable and hard-



Victim of the heatwave: a cow dies in a fruitless search for water at a livestock market in Leesville, South Carolina.

pressed local authorities are cutting off water supplies to big industrial consumers (many of whom are attempting to dig private wells).

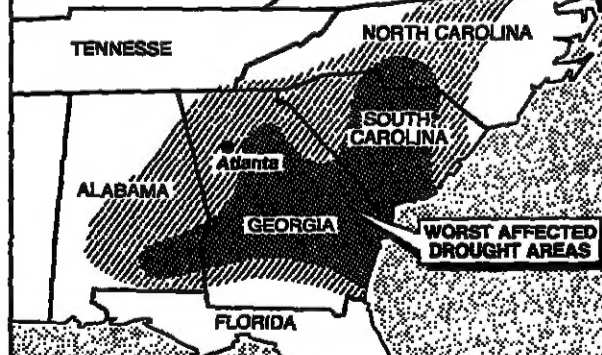
Drastic restrictions have been imposed on domestic users. Low water levels in reservoirs, streams and lakes are threatening to taint water supplies.

But it is the farming community which is hardest hit. For them the heatwave comes on top of low rainfall throughout the past 12 months. For many who have over the past decade struggled with rising costs, falling commodity prices and a low priority in federal government policies, it will be the final blow.

American farmers are estimated to be \$143bn in debt. Last year in Georgia alone 3,000 went bankrupt. This year, the figure was expected to be 5,000, according to the state's Commissioner for Agriculture, Mr Tommy Irvin.

The present scale of the drought could double that, with exponential increases if the hot weather continues.

Out in the field the predictions are even more gloomy. Mr Nathan Malcolm, the president of the farmer's association in Walton County, fears that 50 per cent of America's farmers will go bankrupt over the next three years. The problem is particularly acute for the producers of the region's staple crops.



weedkillers could not destroy. Equally serious is the plight of the cattle men. All over the southern states they have neither the pasture for their present needs nor are they producing the hay for the winter months.

Huge numbers of cattle are coming on to the market. The Midwest farmers who normally buy southern calves for fattening have been buying cows as well, threatening the future breeding potential of the region. Yet still more cattle arrive at the markets every day, so auctioneers are closing their lists the day before each sale and turning away thousands of beasts.

The price of cattle has dropped from over 50 cents a pound to less than 30 cents. Even if the weather were now to break, much of the damage is already irreparable and more problems have been laid up for the future.

The hardy taproots of the great tracts of flourishing weeds will necessitate extra ploughing next year. In fields of winter pasture the heat-sensitive fescue grass has died in vast expanses which will require expensive re-seeding. The state's large acreages of

peach trees will be less fruitful and more vulnerable to insect pests and disease as a result of the drought stress. Many will die outright as century-old oaks, sweet gum and poplars have. Those cattle which survive will have a lower conception rate and a higher susceptibility to illness.

Over the last week the drought has increasingly become a political issue. President Reagan and other national officials have paid much-publicized visits to the drought areas. Southern politicians have called for increasing government protection and disaster subsidy. Such notions are in direct contradiction of the Reagan policy to shift such burdens to private insurance schemes.

Suggestions from Washington that low-interest loans might be made available to farmers in disaster areas have left the south unimpressed.

"Most of our farmers are already too far in debt from previous hard years. They don't need another loan," said Commissioner Irvin, who is calling for government stocks of commodity surpluses to be released in large quantities as compensation payments.



The 82-year-old concert pianist, Vladimir Horowitz, receiving the Medal of Freedom from Mrs Nancy Reagan this week as the President looks on. Mr Reagan praised the pianist for his "pilgrimage of peace" — his recent tour of the Soviet Union.

American overdrive on drugs

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

America's spiralling drug problem has suddenly taken on a political dimension, with President Reagan about to enter the fray with a national campaign to fight the use of narcotics.

Democratic leaders have announced a drive for bipartisan legislation on drug abuse, an initiative that instantly captured national support.

The drugs issue has sprung into life once more essentially because of the arrival on the market of "crack", a particularly potent and cheaper brand of cocaine which is so addictive that a person can be hooked after a taking it just once.

President Reagan's aides are considering whether he should make a speech broadcast nationally to open the drive. His interest in the crisis has undoubtedly been greatly influenced by Mrs Nancy Reagan, who has drawn considerable respect for her efforts to stem drug abuse.

The issue went high up the political agenda last week when Mr Tip O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and other Democratic leaders announced plans for legislation. Since then Republican leaders have been urging the White House to take the initiative away from the Democrats.

National media coverage on drugs has been enormous since the death of Len Bias, a basketball star, on June 27 from a cocaine overdose.

● TURIN: Sixteen people, alleged to belong to a high society drug ring, have been charged in Turin with smuggling cocaine into Italy and marketing it (AP and Reuters reports).

The prosecutor alleged that the ring, which apparently extended its operation into West Germany, imported the cocaine from Latin America diluted in bottles of Peruvian brandy.

Among those charged was Countess Giorgia Arfieri, Tarino, accused of selling cocaine in Turin's high society circles. The other 15 include actors, musicians and art gallery owners.

García adopts tougher line

From a Correspondent, Lima

President García of Peru, spurred by the Latin American debt crisis, Marxist subversion and economic stagnation, has reaffirmed his position as the most radical head of state in South America.

"We are going to prove to the world that to change our country, we do not have to resort to totalitarianism," Señor García said. "You do not have to be a communist to believe in change."

The President, who leans to the left, spoke for two hours and 45 minutes on Monday in compliance with the Constitution's requirement that he report in detail on government action and plans once a year. He was armed with several executive-sponsored bills for administrative reform and announced a host of other initiatives.

He said Peru would continue to limit the servicing of its foreign debt to 10 per cent of export earnings, about \$330 million (about \$222 million), for another year. Imposing a new condition, he said, his country would not pay more than it received in fresh credits from abroad.

The servicing of the foreign debts of private companies

would also be restricted and foreign companies would not be able to remit profits, royalties or depreciation to their head offices for two years.

Señor García said: "We will discuss with our creditors, but we will propose conditions of interest rates, terms and grace periods which are compatible with the 10 per cent limit."

But the President implied that the Government had little expectation of coming to terms quickly with the creditors of its \$14 billion debt, and instead, it would have to take "siege economy" measures to survive without access to international capital markets.

"We need an economy of national defence against the crisis to concentrate the efforts and resources of Peru on a single objective."

As part of the policy, Peru had reduced its military contracts for Mirage 2000 fighter bombers from 26 aircraft to 12 and suspended the refitting of a cruiser in The Netherlands, saving \$730 million.

Señor García drew a comparison between his first year in office, when the emphasis was on emergency programmes, and an apprentice-

ship in power. He said he was now proposing a far-reaching, "prudent process of reconstruction" to alter the country's productive apparatus so that it was not dependent on imported technology and financing.

He said this would require a process of negotiation between the Government and private producers to agree on a new development strategy.

Other measures ranged from the decentralization of decision-making power to regional governments, tighter controls on the banking system and special incentives for job creation.

He said the other obstacle to development was the Shining Path movement, whose terrorist tactics had caused conflict costing 8,000 lives so far. But the President also spoke of the spread of violence among the armed forces: "Violence has infected the instruments which the state uses to fight subversion."

He encouraged the Congress to investigate the June 18 and 19 prison mutiny and mass execution of inmates belonging to Shining Path and to punish those responsible for the killings.

France presses ahead with TV satellites

From Diana Goides, Paris

The French Government has decided to go ahead with its ambitious direct television broadcasting programme, involving two communications satellites, despite criticisms that the programme — launched seven years ago — is too costly, unreliable, and already technically out of date.

M. Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, took the unexpected decision yesterday after a meeting of the seven ministers most concerned and the head of the state broadcasting agency, TDF.

It had been thought that the Government would at least want to scale down the \$360m programme, if not abandon it completely.

However, both TDF and the satellite manufacturers have argued forcefully that the programme was both technologically and commercially

Search for break-out prisoners

Lisbon (Reuters) — Police in southern Portugal were searching yesterday for six convicts who broke out of prison after shooting dead three guards and wounding two others.

A police spokesman said the search was concentrated on southern Portugal and the Algarve tourist region, the home province of most of the fugitives.

The Pinheiro da Cruz prison, 80 miles south of Lisbon, is close to Grândola, which lies on the main national road network and is less than a two-hour drive south to the Algarve or east to the Spanish border.

The six men, serving terms for violent offences including murder and armed robbery, escaped in a prison van with hostages after raiding the armoury and shooting five guards.

The hostages were dumped unharmed nearby as the escaped prisoners commandeered another car.

The convicts, with jail terms totalling more than 100 years, have not been seen since.

Rome changes tack to win back US tourists

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Italy's response to this season's near-boycott by American holidaymakers could amount to a complete reorganization of the country's tourism policy.

The most striking move so far to persuade the Americans to return began modestly. The Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero* bought advertising space in *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* for a message headlined "The wind of Rome is a friendly wind".

The object was to offset fears that any American in Italy would inevitably be the target of terrorist attacks or strikes or, failing that, would die of poisoned wine or bankrupt himself because of the falling dollar.

The virtue of *Il Messaggero*'s initiative lay in the reaction to it. In the United States, the powerful Italian-American groups, claiming more than 30 million members and two plausible presidential candidates, promptly endorsed its gentle picture.

Big names here — among them Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, Luciano Pavarotti, the opera singer, and Signor Giancarlo Menotti, the founder of the Spoleto Festival — gave their support.

At the same time, the National Tourist Board has combined with Alitalia to finance a campaign in the

Gypsies in Spain march for attention

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's down-trodden gypsy community has staged its first protest march to remind the re-elected Socialist Government and the new Parliament that they have still to make effective the democratic rights of all citizens proclaimed in the 1978 constitution.

More than 5,000 gypsies from all over Spain marched on Monday night past the Prado museum and as close to Parliament as the police allowed to hand in a petition demanding action to end the systematic discrimination they experience from many other Spaniards.

"We are Spaniards", "Fascism No, living together Yes" and "For peace and equality" were some of the slogans shouted.

Flamenco dancers and singers and other gypsy artists, who help spread the traditional "Carmen" image of Spain around the world, led the march.

The unexpected demonstration by Spain's gypsies, estimated at about 300,000, could be a shock for a country which conventionally prides itself on an absence of racial prejudice.

But at the same time as the Madrid march, about 1,000 inhabitants of the small Andalusian town of Martos, near Jaen, gathered threateningly in front of the town hall to insist that the authorities do not allow any gypsy families to return to the homes from which they had been driven by force a fortnight before.

About 40 gypsy shanties in Martos were burned to the ground by a crowd of 300 angered by the stabbing of a local man in a dispute with a young gypsy. No charges have been made in connection with the attack.

Helped by the Socialist Party of Martos and local Red Cross officials, some 100 gypsies have spent the past fortnight under tents after fleeing the town. They have encountered opposition to settling in any other town nearby.

They have slept in fields, on a disused railway station and in public buildings before finally deciding to give up and go to live with relatives elsewhere in Spain.

But Monday's protest erupted because one gypsy family had decided to try to return to Martos, where the local authorities are rebuilding the burnt-down shacks.

"We gypsies are not a people of thieves and delinquents", Señor Juan de Dios Heredia, Señor's gypsy MEP and a Socialist, told the Madrid rally amid roars of "I used for years to say Spaniards' indifference was the gypsy people's worst enemy, but now it is aggression," he said.

Social workers have during the past few years repeatedly drawn attention to the gypsies' low incomes (between £50 and £170 a month, they estimated, among Madrid's gypsy street vendors), bad health with high infant mortality, and minimal literacy rates.

Occasionally the Spanish newspapers report ugly disputes between the poorer inhabitants of big city suburbs and gypsy squatters.

More than two years ago, Spain's gypsy associations urged the Government to appoint a special national commissioner with powers to prosecute cases of social discrimination. But the official reply was that the matter would be taken up when the volume of offences justified it.

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At the same time, the National Tourist Board has combined with Alitalia to finance a campaign in the

United States to improve the Italian image.

Prominence has been given to the news that 30 American students have joined passengers aboard the cruise ship *Achille Lauro*, the ill-fated symbol of danger after it was hijacked and an American tourist murdered.

Gondoliers in Venice are offering a high rate for the dollar to their American clients, while Florence boutiques are cutting prices. The Ministry of Transport hopes to conclude an agreement with the unions, arranging strikes so that they will be avoided at busy times.

There is an awareness that it is not only the missing Americans who are causing anxiety. Tourism is showing signs of a steady decline. Spain has already overtaken Italy for second place (after the United States) as a tourist haven.

The idea that tourist earnings cover the gap in the trade deficit can no longer be taken for granted.

The tourist board is considering calling on local government and tourist agencies to offer a free holiday each to one American. There are about 50,000 such groups, and the method, they say, has great attractions than tea with Mr Thatcher.

The board claims now is the time to change the centuries old tourism policy.

The new Chinese frontier

China is on course to become a major space power. After just 20 years, some Chinese rocketry is on a par with the west and ahead of the Russians. Report by Robert Grieves and Keith Hindley

China's space programme began about the year 1500, when a Ming dynasty scientist called Wan Hu tied 50 rockets to a comfortable chair and lit the fuses. The intrepid Wan died in the ensuing explosion but the story, along with tales of 13th century gunpowder kites and missiles, is taught to Chinese schoolchildren today as proof that China invented the rocket.

In recent years the Chinese have made rapid progress in modern missiles and suddenly the west has been forced to take them seriously. With the whole of the western satellite launch fleet — the US Space Shuttle and the Delta, Titan, Atlas and Ariane rockets — grounded after serious failures, Mr Li Xu'e, the astronautics minister, has found business booming. Engineers returning from recent visits to Chinese space installations have expressed surprise and even amazement at home-built rockets with advanced engines and sophisticated solid state electronics. Launch-pad and laboratory facilities are up to the same high standards. Chinese engineers have impressed everyone with their knowledge and command of detail.

A year ago, the Chinese Ministry of Astronautics felt confident enough to offer a satellite launching service to the world. Mr Li Xu'e pointed to a stable of tried and tested rockets and an enviable record of 18 launch successes and three failures, only one of them with their main booster rocket. China launched three satellites with one rocket in 1981 and raised communication satellites to geostationary orbit at 22,000 miles in 1984 and 1986.

China is now estimated to be spending about £2 billion a year on space research and development. Its space industry employs more than 12,000 people and they expect that figure to more than double in the next decade.

The Chinese are also spending heavily on space medicine and have an astronaut corps under training. They could launch their first astronaut in the next few years and they expect to fly a small re-usable

space shuttle by the mid-1990s. Their space programme has made use of military rockets developed to deliver Chinese nuclear weapons. This programme was given the highest priority after Sino-Soviet relations deteriorated in the early 1960s.

Ten years before, many American-trained Chinese scientists had returned home to establish Chinese rocketry. They were joined, a decade later, by others from the Soviet Union as relations there cooled. "At that time, we were without friends," Sun Jiadong, vice-minister of astronautics, recalled recently. "We stole what secrets we could from the US and USSR and then developed the rest ourselves."

They learnt quickly. The first Chinese rocket lifted off in 1964 and by 1966 had flown 1,095 miles and had detonated a Hiroshima-sized atomic bomb. By 1970, a second and far more sophisticated rocket had flown 1,875 miles. These military rockets were deployed against the USSR. The first Chinese satellite was launched the same year using a larger military carrier rocket with a third stage added. This became Long March 1, China's first satellite booster.

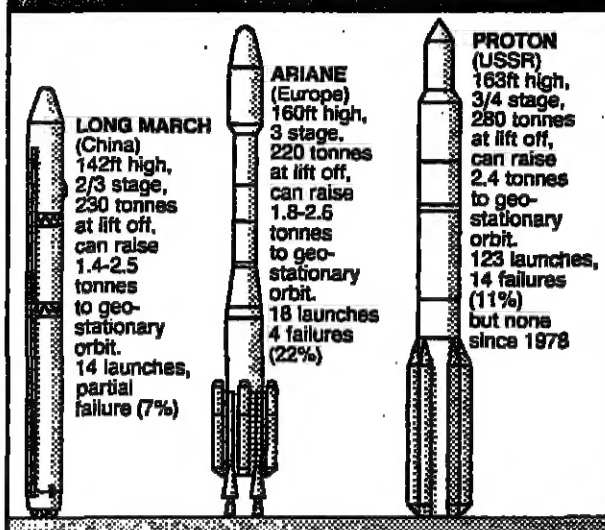
The breakthrough came with their first true intercontinental ballistic missile, capable of delivering a large nuclear bomb to a target 5,000 miles away. This two-stage rocket could launch two tonnes into earth orbit and was called Long March 2.

Not satisfied with this, the Chinese developed a third stage using liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen fuels. These super-chilled fuels need sophisticated engines and careful handling, yet the Chinese appear to have mastered the problems with remarkable ease. They provide the most efficient chemical rocket and are used in NASA's space shuttle. The Soviet Union has yet to perfect their use. This three-stage rocket is Long March 3 and provides direct competition for Europe's Ariane, NASA's Delta and the USSR's Proton launchers. At least 13 launch organiza-



Lift-off: China's 17th satellite launch (left) last October. Above: the latest satellite, launched in February 1986

CHINA'S ROCKETS AND RIVALS



tions in 10 countries are discussing launch arrangements with the China Great Wall Industry Corporation, the subsidiary of the Ministry of Astronautics that is handling commercial launches.

In March, Svenska Rymdaktiebolaget of Sweden signed a one-year launch reservation to orbit their Mailstar satellite in 1988. The launch, if it goes ahead, will share the rocket with a Chinese earth resources satellite and it will require a custom-built last stage which the Chinese are now designing.

In May, the Texas-based Teresat Corporation signed a letter of intent to launch the secondhand satellite Palapa B2 and Westar 6 by the end of 1987. These are the spacecraft rescued by the US Space Shuttle after their final boosters failed and left them marooned in orbit in 1984. Finally, agreement is reported to be imminent for a contract with Western Union to launch a communications satellite.

At the moment, the Chinese and the Russians are the only organizations that can offer a launch date before the 1990s. For China the stakes are huge. In addition to acquiring inter-

national technological prestige — an important goal for status-conscious China — satellite launches could bring the People's Republic a thick wad of much needed foreign exchange. Extra launches can also spread the heavy cost of developing each rocket.

The worldwide demand for satellite launches up to the year 2000 will total about 300. The Chinese would like to corner a portion of that market.

Apart from early launch dates, a Chinese launch could also save western operators tidy sums in launch and insurance fees. The Chinese are quoting fees about 15 to 20 per cent below prices for Space Shuttle and Ariane launches. In addition, they offer launch insurance with the People's Insurance Company at below international rates.

After very heavy losses in the last few years (10 satellites worth over £400 million have failed to reach orbit), western underwriters are now demanding heavy premiums for insuring European or American launches.

A final attraction is the new openness shown by the Chinese. They are happy to

conduct the representative of a potential customer around their space facilities and Chinese engineers have recently discussed their rocket failures.

One Long March 2 booster exploded 20 seconds after lift-off, showering an inhabited area with debris, demolishing a public lavatory but causing no casualties. The problem was a defective gyroscope. Later, a Long March 3 rocket failed to reach geostationary



Rocket man Li Xu'e: selling the world a successful launch service

orbit when its third stage did not develop its designed thrust. The problem was bubbles in the liquid hydrogen fuel. Senior Engineer Chen Shouchun recently admitted: "In the past we weren't very open and so the west didn't understand our capabilities. But early problems have been rectified and recent flights have been very successful."

Peking aims to capitalize on that success with aggressive marketing. To exploit the golden opportunity presented by the western launch problems, the Chinese are raising the number of Long March 3 launches from three to 12 each year.

To make the rocket even more competitive, they are to raise its launch payload from 1.4 tonnes to more than 2.5 tonnes up to geostationary orbit using strap-on solid rocket boosters.

The Chinese are offering a launch 30 months after a contract is signed — an offer that only the Russians can match at present. The business they are likely to mop up for launch dates in 1987-1989

LONG MARCH

1958: China begins military rocket programme
1964: Test-flight of first surface-to-surface missile (CSS-1)
1966: CSS-1 detonates a live nuclear warhead
Seventy CSS-1s deployed against Soviet targets
1970: More powerful CSS-2 begins test flying
Long March 1, a missile with extra rocket stages, launches China's first satellite in April
1971: Twenty CSS-2 missiles deployed against Soviet targets
CSS-3 missile, a CSS-2 with an extra rocket stage, begins test flying
1974: Long March rocket launcher explodes
1976: Deployment of CSS-3 missiles begins
1980: First test firing in May of CSS-4, a new two-stage intercontinental ballistic missile
1981: Three satellites launched in September with Long March 2 rocket booster based on the CSS-4 ICBM
1984: China's 14th satellite launched in January by Long March 3 using liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen fuels, but third stage fails to reach expected power
Long March 3 rocket places China's first communications satellite in orbit in April
1985: China announces in June it is open for commercial satellite launch business and begins canvassing for customers
1986: Long March 3 in February places China's second communications satellite in orbit
In March, China signs its first commercial launch contract with Sweden



Theatre in the rough

A New Vic has sprung from urban weeds — in Stoke-on-Trent

Peter Cheeseman knew he had finally struck lucky, after searching the Potteries for 12 years to find a new site for the Victoria Theatre, when he scrambled over a wall into the garden of a Georgian house. "It was simply magical", he recalls. "It was overgrown with weeds which completely covered the old garden and tennis court but it was the most wonderful site we had been offered."

On August 9 the New Vic, as it is already known locally, will open its doors to the public, eight years after Cheeseman's first glimpse of the site. His team readily admit that the dream of a purpose-built theatre would never have been realized if it had not been for the drive and vision of Cheeseman, the director and a man with a national reputation but a conviction for community-based theatre.

And home for the Victoria would have remained the disused First World War cinema in Stoke, where 24 years ago impresario Stephen Joseph set up a home for his "theatre in the round".

The contrast between the two venues, which are less than a mile apart, could scarcely be more dramatic. The new site is probably the only theatre to employ a full-time conservationist. Derek Bolton has created an urban nature reserve around the theatre on the 2.8 acre site.

Cheeseman and his staff were so determined to maintain the beauty of their new surroundings that the whole building was moved one yard to the west rather than fill a line of trees. The new building has 600 seats in the round and good facilities.

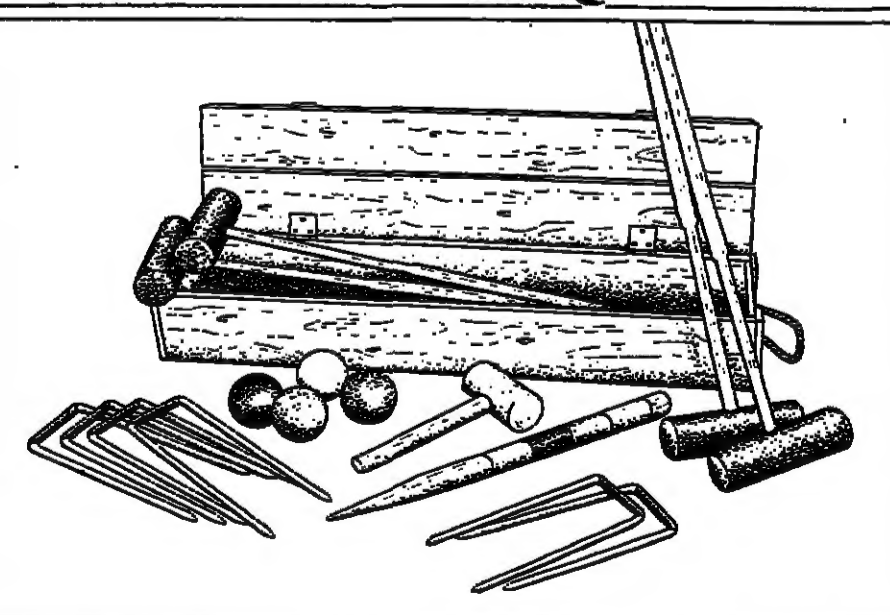
The company has nurtured its share of star performers, notably Ben Kingsley and Robert Powell, as well as providing opportunities for a string of writers and directors. — Alan Ayckbourn was once a member. Appropriately, the first production, which opens on August 13, will be a play by Arthur Miller, a local man.

Cheeseman has been offered lucrative and prestigious posts with national companies but has remained loyal to the Vic. The new theatre has cost just over £3 million, with most of the money coming from the Arts Council and local authority funding. The balance, about £750,000, is being raised through appeals.

"We will never be able to pay lavish wages but I truly believe that there will not be a better theatre to work in the whole world", Cheeseman says.

Peter Davenport

THE TIMES CROQUET SET



The refined game of croquet offers a perfect way of spending those lazy summer evenings, however, don't let its slow pace belie the skill involved.

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All the fun of the fear

Alan Franks went on a new-style initiative course and found himself upwardly mobile



companies who feel their employees could do with rather more upward mobility in the cliff-face sense of the term. At present the weekends are, despite my prohibitive opening words, mainly for fun.

I have always believed that the world is divided into two classes of person — the problem solvers, and the problem creators. After last weekend, that belief is confirmed. McLuckie falls into the first category, and your correspondent into the second. McLuckie, of course, has an unfair advantage, having worked in Signals for much of his Army career before becoming a member of the board that interviews potential officers.

At present the weekends are devoted so that the "guest list" of eight splits into two teams.

The first day, pranks apart, consists of a briefing, the second of a series of how-to-get-a-barrel-across-a-stream-using-only-two-logs games, and the third of a cross-country mission, using all the acquired skills, in search of the debris of a crashed rocket.

My own team, of which I was emphatically not the leader, comprised two women teachers from a young delinquents' school in Paisley, near Glasgow, and an unfairly fit and forty-ish manager of information systems at ICL in Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

One of the teachers, Helen, suffered from chronic vertigo, and I shall not easily forget the expression on her downwardly-mobile face as she abseiled down a sheer cliff wall of 30 feet.

QUITE HOW such adventures would help, say, an accounts manager to manage his accounts better, or a public relations officer to improve his public relations I have no idea, but to judge from what I saw, the self-esteem of the fearful and the fettle is certainly improved by three days of kind but concerted de-wimpering.

For this I call as my witness Helen's colleague, Morna, a wee gran of such tiny proportions that she scarcely had the weight to abseil: "I'm no speakin' out o' turn, Helen, but if ye can mind a class for o' hooligans, ye can sure as hell get yer *** doon tha' cliff." And she was right.

The grand thing about courses like McLuckie's is that they instill the sense of hardiness — even foolhardiness — without even incurring the remotest risk. I know that's not quite the thing to tell your awed and urban friends as you march with ever so slightly stiff limbs from the Easton sleeper, but, between you and me, it's the truth.

Tomorrow

On the Books page, Peter Ackroyd reviews *Stalin and the Shaping of the Soviet Union*

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1015

ACROSS
1 Jet (6)
4 Furniture wheel (6)
7 Prevalent (4)
8 Food of gods (8)
9 Blameworthy (5)
13 Era (3)
16 Water on brain (13)
17 Strange (3)
19 Soak (8)
24 Forced back (8)
25 Jet (4)
26 Wince (6)
27 Greece/Cyprus union (6)

DOWN
1 Certain (4)
2 Groundless (9)
3 Jewelled headress (5)
4 Inner clique (5)
5 Sluggish (4)
6 Ogling (5)
10 Devout (5)
11 Sheep's cry (5)
12 Anaesthetic liquid (5)
13 Army latrines (9)
14 Facility (4)
15 Go away! (4)
16 Reside (5)
18 Muslim god (5)
21 Excessive (5)
22 Not fat (4)
23 Gutter journals (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1014
ACROSS: 1 Sorrow 5 Comb 8 Opium 9 Lewdown 11 Nightcap 13 Cipes 23 Desk 24 Doodah
DOWN: 2 Owing 3 Run 4 Well-appointed 5 Cate 6 Moorhen 7 John Buchan 10 Nettle rash 12 Tact 14 Jiff 16 Emulate 19

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Sexual power games in the office

Some 150,000 civil servants are to receive a booklet from their union warning them not to sexually harass their co-workers. But this latest attempt will do nothing to curb the menace, says Pat Garratt — because most men simply don't believe that women object

There are many gaps in understanding between the sexes, but perhaps the greatest area is sexual harassment. One man's compliment — "You're looking particularly sexy today, Miranda" — is another woman's insult, especially if Miranda's thoughts are with the sales figures rather than her own personal statistics. Yet many men feel that, short of rape, they have as much licence to grope their secretaries as to grapple with their VAT.

Over the last two years, according to the Equal Opportunities Commission, sexual harassment has finally gained recognition as a serious problem for a woman. And with the most recent cases of Dr Cathy St Clair, the ESO scientist, and Mrs Jean Porcelli, the laboratory assistant, who both took their complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination to court — and won — it is clear that legal minds are now bending in sympathy.

Alison Penny, a former administrative assistant with Reading Borough Council's recreation department told an industrial tribunal this week that a senior officer suggested she should pose in football kit to promote a five-a-side tournament because she had "the biggest bust in the department". She lost the case — but the chairman said such incidents could amount to sexual harassment and sex discrimination.

simple fact: despite years of surveys showing the damaging effect of such behaviour, nobody has yet convinced men that women find it offensive. "She must be lesbian/frigid/humorous is the general male reaction to any female put-down — though the truth is much more complicated."

What women object to is the arrogance and unprofessionalism of such male behaviour, and the implied threat to their jobs if they don't submit. "Unwanted verbal or sexual advances" is the TUC definition, and the crucial word is "unwanted".

Harassed women hate the male attitude which assumes that his

'What women object to is the arrogance of such behaviour'

attentions are welcome, and which undervalues a female colleague's work role while promoting her sexual role. Harassment undermines a woman's ability to cope with her job, decreases her self-confidence and makes her furious that she is being forced to perform unnaturally in the work environment.

Given the sensitivity of the problem, what should today's thrusting male executive watch out for if he isn't to fall foul of a harassment charge? "It's difficult to describe," confesses Professor Cary Cooper, co-author of *Stress and the Woman Manager*. "But it's the continuous wearing down of women through comments like 'You're looking good today', or 'We'll talk about that after a drink, pet', when you wouldn't suggest it to a man."

"Sometimes it's not what you say, it's the way you say it or the gestures. It's insidious behaviour that could be construed as a compliment or gallantry. Often the comments occur when men are doing a macho number in front of others, ganging up to put a woman down. It enhances their own role, which is what prejudice is all about. They are effectively saying, 'I'm more senior and more valuable in the hierarchy than you are.'"

It happens most often when they feel threatened by the woman or competing with them for promotion. They don't do it with senior women, which proves it is about power and dominance rather than sexuality, though men would deny it."

A woman certainly doesn't need to look sexy to invite such behaviour, agrees Dr Rosalind Miles, author of *Danger, Men at Work*, so she must not feel guilty about provoking it. "It's not the randy male being carried away by the gorgeous crumpet in the red dress.



matter of putting on fondling, say. Let's agree, I won't grope you if you don't grope me. Cultivate a repertoire of light but firm put-downs to try to keep a good working relationship going. If he persists, tell female colleagues what is happening, because they may think you're playing a little game to accelerate your promotion.

"Together you could all decide on a collective strategy for dealing with the man. Tell your personnel department. However, as personnel is usually an arm of male management, they may consider such behaviour as being within the norm. Tell your union if you have one. And one final technique, warmly recommended by a girlfriend of mine: tell his wife."

The traditional court of last resort has always been the woman to leave her job but in the recession-hit 1980s, Dr Miles advises women to stay put if possible. So how should men act? "They should proceed on the assumption that their attentions are unwanted, unless they get a signal to the contrary — which is the opposite of most men's current practice."

Professor Cooper believes that

'A lot of men touch women as they would children or dogs'

no woman should ever use female wiles to gain professional advantage. "Otherwise men see it as a first step. Women at work — from clerks and secretaries upwards — should be professional. Although he says most men expect women "if they're smart" to be able to deal with gropers and pinchers, he believes few men would be able to cope if the situation were reversed.

His own suggested solution is training — not assertiveness training for women but sensitization programmes for men. "As more women enter organizations, we ought to find out why men are frightened by them and feel the need to devalue them. We should look at men's negative blockage behaviour in two stages: first with men alone, then in mixed groups.

"Men have had years of experience playing organizational politics and learning how to put people down. Unfortunately women haven't. I think in 20 or 30 years' time, when females are allowed total access to all jobs and are on an equal footing with men in pay, status and so on, harassment won't pose such a threat."

Stress and the Woman Manager, by Davidson and Cooper, published by Blackwell, price £17.50. *Danger, Men at Work*, by Dr Rosalind Miles, Futura, £3.95.

TALKBACK

Beware of time snarlers

From Mrs R.E. Crackett, Harestone Valley Road, Catterham, Surrey

In her article on time-share selling methods (July 18) Susan Pinkus suggests that attendance at a presentation will at least be rewarded with the promised gift. Not necessarily so! Like her, and for the same reasons, I was the first to leave a similar presentation last year, only to be told that the organizers had run out of "supplies of the promised gift (a very modestly-priced camera). They took my address and said they would send me one.

Only after several phone calls and finally a personal letter to the managing director of the parent company was I offered the camera or cash equivalent.

This company, interestingly enough, is one of those which have formed an association to promote a more acceptable code of conduct.

From M.J. Webster, Avondale Road, Wimbeldon, London

I have attended a similar presentation only to find it was a "hard sell" operation of the type we are constantly warned against in the form of door-to-door salesmen or telephone canvassers. The object of the presentation was to sign up people on the day, thereby allowing no time for reflection or, more important, to seek legal advice.

Having signed up and changed my mind, I have found it almost impossible to extricate myself from the contract and have also learnt of others who are in a similar predicament.

From Mrs Jill London, Fircroft, Curry Churchtown, Helston, Cornwall

I too was plagued by a time-share company inviting me to video shows of their property on the Algarve. I solved the problem by writing to draw their attention to our geographical location from London and asking them to provide return train fare and overnight hotel accommodation in London. I then posted my letter in their reply-paid envelope.

Their harassment was nothing to that which we experienced from time-share toots when we were in the Algarve in February.

Clean hands

FIRST PERSON

Jane Scott

A month ago I stood at the washbasin, picked up the soap and suddenly realized that I was doing something I had not done for the better part of three years — washing my hands without effort.

This small pleasure, I hope, will also be the Prime Minister's when she, like me, has undergone an operation to correct a *Dupuytren's* contracture — in her case, of the little finger on her right hand. I had a more serious version of the operation on the same hand in the spring, having waited five years. By then, my little finger and the one next to it were nearly touching the palm, and the top two joints of the middle finger were at right angles to it. It was only gradually afterwards that I realized what a handicap I had laboured under since my fingers became seriously distorted.

The first excitement came after about three weeks when I was allowed to leave my bandage off, a stage delayed by the fact that I had contracted an infection. I set down, tried to touch type — and was thrilled to discover I had not lost the skill.

The next was finding that I could shake hands again. When introduced to someone, I had been forced to approach them with a vertical motion and slide my hand into theirs, rather like putting on a sock. But the biggest thrill came after two months when the wound healed and I was no longer banned from using water. Clean hands for me, and, let us hope, for Mrs Thatcher as well.

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Gamma cuisine?

Tomorrow is the last day on which the public can make its views known to the DHSS's Advisory Committee on Irradiated Food. The committee will then sift the evidence to decide whether this form of food processing should be made legal in Britain.

Since the public and interested parties were invited to make their views known earlier this year, there has been a huge response, running into several thousands of letters and reports, but no date has yet been fixed for a decision.

Irradiation — technically known as ionizing radiation — is one of a number of hi-tech means of food processing introduced in the past few years. It is permitted in many European countries and, in a limited form, in the United States.

Foreign irradiated food usually bears the small label "Radura", which is supposed to be a symbol of quality. But the London Food Commission, which is campaigning against irradiation, says that

Should irradiation take its place among the other methods of food preservation allowed in Britain?

er they are serious or whether there is any harm to workers from radioactivity. Enthusiasts for the process say that irradiation will help to combat Britain's epidemic of food poisoning. "Cross contamination from raw poultry will come to an end," says Professor Geoffrey Campbell-Black, of the Leatherhead Food Research Association.

Opponents of the process are worried about quality control. They also fear that if irradiation is allowed — and this looks extremely likely — it will take over as the main method of food preservation.

At present irradiation is only one of a long list of food protection methods, including heat treatment, pasteuriza-

high temperature before the canning process takes place.

Fermentation, to take another example, involves the use of micro-organisms to preserve food. Though it is an ancient form of preservation, modern food scientists know exactly which micro-organisms are doing what to prevent the growth of spoilage organisms.

The questions taxing nutritionists are: how far should we allow our food to be processed, and do these preservation methods give us a balanced diet? "There are two ways of looking at it," Geoffrey Campbell-Black says. "Either we have fresh fruit and vegetables only in their short season or we try to evolve methods of preserving them that will be safe and wholesome. Is it better to have apples only during their harvest or to be able to eat them all the year round?"

Patrick Hooford, a biochemist with the Institute of Optimum Nutrition, says: "If we look at all the artificial ways of preserving food, irradiation doesn't come out too badly. The point to remember is that all forms of interference with food, even cooking, destroy nutrient content to some degree."

"Our fear is that the food industry will decide that irradiation isn't too bad and that this will lead to more treatments over which the public have no control. If irradiation comes in as a matter of course, it could be only a short time before all foods are irradiated. At present we have no real long-term evidence that small amounts of radiation are harmless: neither do we know how far altering the molecular structure of our food may destroy enzymes."

"I feel certain that irradiation will come in, but we must make sure that we know which foods are irradiated, so that we have a choice as to whether or not to buy."

The London Food Commission, originally set up by the GLC, says that the small "Radura" label is misleading and insufficient. It argues that all such food should have a large "irradiated" label on it. "We do not feel the 'Radura' symbol is a guarantee of any kind of quality," the commission said yesterday.

Liz Hodgkinson



An enlarged version of the symbol on foreign irradiated food

many people do not realize the symbol's significance.

The process itself employs gamma rays emitted by cobalt-60 or caesium-137 — both derived from nuclear waste — which are passed through the food with the object of destroying all micro-organisms. The rays knock mould off fruit and vegetables, reduce salmonella in chicken and lower the amount of bacteria in spices. Commonly irradiated foods are strawberries, potatoes, peppers, onions, garlic and shallots.

There is some reduction in the vitamin and mineral content of the food, but as yet nobody knows for sure whether

drying, vacuum packing, chemical preservatives, fermentation, modified atmosphere packing and simply adding salt or sugar.

All these methods nowadays involve complex technological processes and demand accurate quality control. Heat treatment, for example, is used in several ways. Blanching for one to eight minutes at 100°C before freezing and canning inactivates enzymes that would cause the food to deteriorate. Pasteurization of milk — heating at 72°C for about 15 minutes — destroys some organisms.

Most canned and other sealed foods are subjected to a

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Labour: the soft left shuffle

George Brock and Peter Truscott survey the men and women who will be Kinnock's new intake



Kinnock and the party trends: Cocks deselected; Benaie Grant and Andrew Smith, contrasting new men

It is now conventional wisdom that Neil Kinnock's leadership of the Labour Party has lifted its fortunes well away from the nadir of its performance at the last general election. His personal style, a tougher attack on the Militant Tendency, the evaporation of threatened mass "deselections" of sitting MPs and a steady rise in the opinion polls have combined to suggest that Labour might gain the 116 additional MPs it requires to hold an overall majority in the next House of Commons.

But assuming Labour achieves an overall majority, what will be the political complexion of the parliamentary Labour Party? Will it help or hinder Kinnock either in his election campaign or in government? The answer has a crucial bearing on how a Labour government might behave in office.

Labour leaders not only have to succeed in electoral competition, they also have to control the tendencies among Labour MPs to dissent, factionalism and obstruction of the leadership — all of which have traditionally been more marked in Labour governments than in Tory ones.

Kinnock faces all these problems and a few more besides. Large numbers of younger Labour activists — many of them now powerful in constituencies or standing for Parliament — have been influenced by the "failures" of the Wilson and Callaghan governments. Since Kinnock's own track record is short and as he has never held ministerial office, the party's opinion-makers are divided about his likely performance in government.

But the left's power to resist compromises from the top has increased by degrees since Labour was last in power. In this context, the balance of forces within the new Parliamentary Labour Party is important.

Because almost all of Labour's prospective parliamentary candidates have now been chosen, it is possible to compile a reasonably precise picture. This shows that in almost any likely election outcome, the left wing will hold a majority in the PLP for the first time.

At the moment, the right (centre-right MPs and the solidarity group) just outnumber MPs belonging to the Tribune and Campaign groups or to the non-aligned left. But the shift to come is very largely in favour of the soft left — from which Kinnock himself came to prominence — and not the hard left, which has often been promoted as the threat to the party's image as being competent to govern.

Three-quarters of the candidates selected to fight the key marginals are on the left (see table). The largest group would opt to join Tribune, with smaller numbers choosing the harder left Campaign group or indicating that they would belong to the non-aligned left.

At the same time, there would be a dramatic decline of the largest group on the right, Solidarity.

Even if Labour gained enough seats for an overall parliamentary majority, it would gain only four new recruits.

The balance between right and left remains roughly the same whatever the number of Labour gains — although in the unlikely event of only a handful of gains, the left would not achieve the same weight of numbers against the right.

An MP who adopts positions to the left of the Labour manifesto before an election may be softened by arrival at Westminster, the persuasions of whips, the prospect of ministerial office — or by his constituents. These forces have operated before. But constituency powers of deselection have introduced a wholly new element which has to be taken into account by any newly elected Labour MP.

We have looked at the 121 candidates so far picked to fight the 130 marginal seats on Labour's "target" list. Three-quarters of them are on the left of the party: if they were all elected, the left would be close to a 2-1 majority over the parliamentary right wing.

Today's breed of Labour candidate is very different from its predecessors: predominantly middle-class professionals. Just three of them come from manual working-class backgrounds and two are unemployed. More than half are in their thirties (the youngest, Siobhain McDonagh, is 26), whereas the average age of the current Labour MPs is 54.

Critics of the new breed of Labour activist both inside and outside the party have been

complaining for some time about the growing influence of teachers and lecturers, the "polyocracy". By 1988, the grounds for the complaint will be plain for all to see. Teachers and lecturers form the largest occupational group among the 121, at 34 per cent of the total. The next largest are "researchers" and local government officers.

More than a sixth are councillors, several of them leaders or deputy leaders. Fourteen are former MPs and two are members of the European Parliament (this group is fairly evenly divided between left and right). Asked about their special interests and affiliations, 70 per cent said they supported CND. Considering the trouble Labour suffered over defence in 1983 and the continuing internal debate over nuclear weapons, this looks like being a harbinger of future trouble.

An unusually large batch of Labour MPs — 41 in all, including seven who have been deselected — is retiring next time. This is probably the major factor in the coming shrinkage of the right wing.

Two widely-predicted changes in the character of the new PLP have failed to materialize: the number of MPs deselected has been far smaller than expected, and the Militant Tendency has made almost no progress at all in propelling its supporters into parliament.

The final tally of deselections — seven so far and four undecided although the June 9 deadline is passed — probably understates the figure, as a further handful of MPs

announced their retirement ahead of deselection moves that looked as if they would succeed.

Of the prominent figures who had been thought to be under threat, only Michael Cocks actually went under in Bristol South. Gerald Kaufman and Peter Shore, both supposed to be vulnerable, survived comfortably. Of the remainder, two (Ernie Roberts and Norman Atkinson) belonged to the hard left of the party and the others do not fit any particular pattern, save that they have been supplanted by younger people. Three of them, Alec Woodall, Michael McGuire and John Forrester, are distinguished by their relative obscurity.

Andrew Smith, the Labour candidate in Oxford East, could stand as a paradigm of the new soft left MP who has emerged from the ranks of the activists whose influence has grown so much since the Seventies. Oxford East lies twelfth on Labour's hit list. It is currently held by a wet Conservative MP Steve Norris, with an uncomfortably fragile majority of 1,267.

Smith is 35 and read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at St John's College, Oxford. He has lectured in sociology and is now a "member relations officer" for the Oxford and Swindon Co-op. He joined the Labour party in 1973 and has been a councillor in Oxford since 1976, building up a solid local reputation, particularly as chairman of the planning committee. He lists his principal concerns as peace and unemployment, and takes the soft left positions on unilateralism, the EEC and mandatory reselection.

Smith took over the candidacy after the defeat in 1979 of Evan Luard, who had twice been MP for Oxford in the Sixties and Seventies. Luard, an authority on international organizations, was on the right of the party and close to the founding figures of the SDP which he joined at the start.

It is possible to over-exaggerate the significance of the shift embodied in the change from Luard to Smith, which is replicated in so many other constituencies. The hard left, associated in the public mind with Tony Benn and Militant, has faded as a force. Militant has been checked within the party and there is only one likely new MP — Pat Wall, standing in Bradford — on the

target list who is sympathetic to the Tendency (and he has assured the NEC that he has severed his formal connections with it). The divisions so bitterly fought at the time of the deputy leadership contest between Benn and Healey in 1981 appear to have been effectively dissolved, to be replaced by new distinctions and coalitions.

The new conditions created by two successive Thatcher governments and the scale of the defeat in 1983 have generated a debate within the Labour Party about the exact meaning and commitments represented by the labels "Campaign" and "Tribune".

As a result, the next PLP will in effect be dominated by a large unknown quantity. It is at least possible that the expanded soft left group will prove reasonably manageable by Kinnock's whips; but it is also true that both major left groups have issued warnings on different issues about what they see as Kinnock's dangerous central tendencies.

But the new soft left MPs are drawn from a pool of party members who wield one unproven power — deselection. Tony Benn has been saying in private that the small number of deselections during this parliament is unimportant; the procedures only achieve real leverage when the party reaches government.

In the past, the Labour parliamentary left has usually had to accept defeat in government without being able to wield much in the way of counter-attack except rhetoric. One of the key tests for a Kinnock government, therefore, would be whether Kinnock could hold his party together in the face of the strains which would follow the postponement of a manifesto commitment and whether he could persuade an angry constituency not to start moves to deselect a prominent minister.

Ernie Roberts, deselected by his Hackney constituents, is convinced that this will happen. Other observers are not so sure. Dr Alastair Cole of Merton College, Oxford, who has been following the selection procedures so far, discounts the possibility of deselections increasing during a Labour government. "I do not see it happening. Any politician who is a government minister will have a solid base in his constituency Labour Party which will enable him to prevent this happening."

One candidate told us: "Whatever its political complexion, the PLP will remain dominated by the centre-right. Kinnock will be responsible for appointing 80 ministers — and there will be another 80 MPs' work jobs of that kind — so he will have 160 votes or so on his side."

To be in a position to reach this interesting dilemma at all, of course, Kinnock has to gain 116 of those target seats. To be confident of that, he needs opinion poll ratings consistently at or over 40 per cent — a target that has so far eluded him.

Robert Jackson

Now we must run with the pack

Britain and the European Community were looking, it seems, for two things from Sir Geoffrey Howe's Mission Impossible. First, for the South African government to move immediately to permit the free organization and expression of political opinion; and secondly, for the "authentic" political forces emerging from this regime of free expression to be engaged by the South African government in what the European Council statement twice describes as a "genuine national dialogue" leading to a new, acceptable constitution.

Now that the foreign secretary's trek has ended in disappointment, let us consider the realism of those proposals. There are in South Africa three competing visions of the political future. The first conceives of a future for blacks only in South Africa ("Azania"). Another, sustained by the ANC for more than 75 years, looks for majority rule on the basis of a common-multiracial citizenship. The third, expressed by the South African government, is based on the principle of power-sharing.

What would happen if the lid on free political organization in South Africa were to be lifted, and the search began for a negotiated settlement involving each of these different ways of looking at the future?

The prognosis Sir Geoffrey put to President Botha was no doubt optimistic. It probably postulated an initial period of turbulence, but predicted that underlying realities would soon assert themselves, as they did in Zimbabwe. "Black power" would rapidly be perceived by the blacks themselves to be a delusion in a complex and racially interdependent economy.

Sir Geoffrey, no doubt, also attempted to reach some compromise between the South African government's and the ANC's respective political visions with, if necessary, protection for individual or minority rights.

After all, if ethnicity — tribalism — is as powerful in South African life as the Botha government claims it is, then it will find free expression in distinct blocs of black opinion out of which winning combinations can be forged: which is what might have happened in Zimbabwe in 1980 if the whites and Matabele had come together earlier, and Bishop Muzorewa had won enough Shona votes in the elections.

President Botha has always painted a more sombre picture of the possible consequences if he were to take Europe's advice. Lifting the lid on black political organization after 20 years of bans and detentions would be, he might have argued, a massive blow to his government's authority, risking the uncontrollable spread of violence.

White opinion has always held this risk to be unacceptable — and it is by no means certain that Botha would be able to persevere in such a course in the face of white resistance, particularly if it

surfaced in the armed forces and the police. (I can almost hear Botha's question now: "How could Britain sustain the Hillsborough agreement if the RUC and the army were against it?")

Moreover, he might have continued, what are the real prospects for negotiation leading to compromise? The experience of Zimbabwe suggests that "opening" leads to radicalization: the position of the black moderates is undercut, and a politically inexperienced electorate rallies to the call of those who promise the most. The Zimbabwean case also suggests that minority rights cannot be guaranteed under majority rule: the whites may have fared better than expected, but the Matabele minority has been repressed.

I fear that, in this imaginary exchange between Boer and Briton, Botha had the best of it. Europe's preferred approach carries risks which would be unacceptable to any government, unless in extremis, and South Africa is not yet on its knees, nor will it be for some time to come.

Where, in this impasse, does Britain's interest lie? It is hard to see that we have much interest in attempting a mediation whose time has not yet come — if it ever will — and which is in any case probably beyond our political resources to sustain.

It is harder still to see how our interest can lie in promoting a course as fraught with risks as that envisaged by the European Twelve. True, the risks to our interests will probably grow, but can we realistically hope to do anything about this situation except by force?

British interests in South Africa would, I believe, be best served by less heroism on our part. Labour's call for us to take a glorious lead in imposing sanctions is a ridiculous overstatement both of what the West is prepared to do, and of what the effects would be on South Africa of any action likely to be undertaken. Nor, on the other hand, do we need to expose ourselves to international isolation by taking the lead in opposing further sanctions and by espousing risky solutions which are unlikely to be accepted by any of the parties.

The South African government, if it is wise, will press on swiftly with the implementation of its vision of power-sharing. But, as it seems to have recognized, it would be foolish for South Africa to expect the world's approval. The best that it can hope for is grudging acquiescence.

Meanwhile, perhaps the best course for Britain would be to run with the pack, perhaps slowing its pace: let there be "measures" perhaps even "sanctions". The realities in South Africa are not likely to be moved one way or the other by anything the rest of the world is likely to do.

The author is Conservative MP for Wantage

Museum of horrors versus unshakable faith

Christopher Walker reports on Lithuania's struggle

Vilnius, Lithuania
The children on an educational visit gazed in horrified fascination at the instruments of torture on show in the gloomy crypt below the Lithuanian Museum of Atheism, a pink baroque building, once the church of St Kasimir, in the centre of the capital, Vilnius.

A pretty Russian teacher pointed out the chair of nails, the leg braces, the holder for burning coals and the selection of tongs, and explained in a voice loud enough for all in the chamber to hear: "This is what the Christians used to do to each other as part of religion."

The grotesque displays in the glass cases included photographs of blood-spattered corpses roped to chairs — according to the official description, murdered by "bourgeois nationalists with the blessing of Catholic priests". A list of priests alleged to have co-operated with Hitler's forces in the war was on display.

But those in charge of the campaign to eradicate religion have a hard task. In Lithuania — one of the three Baltic republics annexed by Stalin in 1940 — the Roman Catholic Church is as much a symbol of national culture and pride as it is in neighbouring Poland.

Of Lithuania's 3.5 million people at least half are thought to be believers. The depth of their faith

can be seen if one leaves the museum and walks a few hundred yards up Gorky Street to the Ausras Gate, site of the city's holiest shrine.

There, under the embarrassed gaze of Soviet guides accompanying our official party, genuflecting women were proceeding backwards along the street and other believers, young and old, were crawling up the 60 or so steps leading to the Virgin Mary's chapel. When an official was asked what one old woman was doing kneeling in the street, he replied with affected nonchalance: "I don't know. Perhaps she is doing up her shoelace."

Although only 11 of the city's 40 Catholic churches remain open, the Soviet authorities have had to accept a *modus vivendi* with the church. In response to the upheavals in neighbouring Poland in the early 1980s, the Lithuanian church was allowed more leeway so as to ease local resentment and forestall the growth of protest movements against Soviet rule. But recently there have been signs that the Communist party is moving to step up its control.

At the regional party congress earlier this year, Petras Griskevicius, the party leader (who was elected to a third five-



year term), launched a strong attack on "clerical extremism". He told delegates: "It is necessary to activate atheistic propaganda among different levels of the population and to strengthen the struggle against clerical extremism, against ideological diversions under the cover of religion. In many regions of the republic, anti-clerical work has up

to now not been effective enough."

He went on to pledge that the use of the Russian language — a highly contentious matter for many young Lithuanians — would be "encouraged and developed in every way", thus demonstrating the connection between Roman Catholicism and nationalism.

Over the years since the annexation there have been several outbreaks of nationalist disorder, notably in 1936 after the Hungarian revolt and in 1972, when thousands rioted in the ancient capital of Kaunas after a 20-year-old man set himself on fire for nationalist and religious reasons.

Although the atmosphere is more relaxed today, it is still inadvisable to speak in Russian to many Lithuanians. This was confirmed by one colleague whose pronunciation of Russian was so good that he was twice refused service in Vilnius bars and cafes. "When I reverted to pidgin English, the attitude changed straight away", he said.

Soviet officials in Lithuania accuse the US embassy in Moscow of helping in the distribution in the West of underground tracts produced by priests and other religious sympathizers, often detailing religious persecution.

Vytautas Zinkevicius, Lithuania's foreign minister, said of the religious campaigners: "There are a few extremists who violate the law. They try to organize illegal schools and teach religion. They are punished." He countered questions from British correspondents with pointed jibes about the Provisional IRA and other terrorist groups with Catholic connections.

Last month, Tass accused the Reagan administration of launching a campaign aimed at stirring up anti-Soviet sentiment in the Baltic republics, which in every aspect of daily life remain the most westernized corner of the Soviet Union. The news agency's anger had been aroused by broadcasts by the Lithuanian-language service of the Voice of America, which along with Polish radio and Rappaport provides a popular alternative to the heavy Soviet fare.

The presence in the republic of some 250,000 Poles has increased the party's concern about malign ideological influence. The authorities severely limit border crossings. "For the last five years I have not been able to go to Warsaw to see my relatives," said Henrik Rudin, an affable Pole married to a Russian and living in Vilnius. "None of us has any idea when the restrictions will be lifted."

he lost when Labour won a thumping majority in the May elections. Edmonds tells me the work was printed in April but the launch was delayed because all the reception rooms in Parliament were booked up. Three months is a long time in politics.

Terms of trial

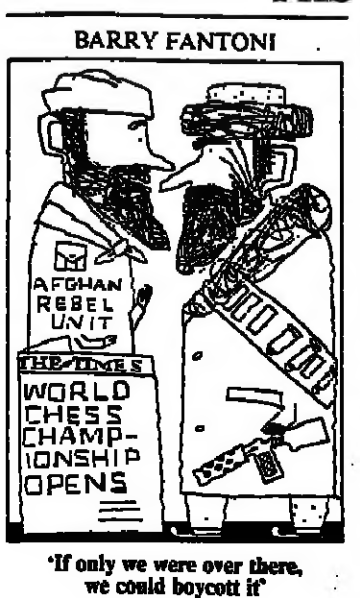
It is just as well the High Court judge who yesterday outlawed Equity's ban on members working in South Africa awarded costs to Marius Goring, the actor who brought the case. Goring, who let me break the news of his action last March, tells me he will now be able to return the few hundred pounds donated by sympathizers. His lawyer, Felix Appelle, says the costs could reach £20,000. Tonight Goring opens as the lead in a medieval play at Canterbury Cathedral. He's playing God.

Brighten Piers

I have seen some pretty awful business cards in my time, but nothing like the one which fluttered out of an envelope on to my desk this morning. It comes from Piers Merchant, Tory MP for Newcastle Central, and depicts him in full colour, "working" at

his study desk between phone and times. If it weren't for the four telephone numbers on the card and the letters M.A. MP after his name, I would have taken the thing to be the cover of his first album. "Excuse the Technicolor," he says, "but it's to remind my constituents who I am! I trust this is not a precedent."

PHS



Barry Fantoni

Royal radiation

There could be another political headache for Buckingham Palace. A meeting of the Museums Association, whose patron is the Queen Mother, has just passed a resolution calling on the government to reduce, and eventually eliminate, all nuclear weapons and power stations. This states that nuclear power represents "the greatest threat to the survival of our cultural heritage". If ratified by the association's council in September, the Queen Mother would be embarrassed to find herself the figurehead of an apparently politically campaigning body. Should her Clarence House advisers imagine the prospect remote because the association would lose charitable status by taking such a line, they should think again. For while the legal department of the Charity Commission tells me that charities are not allowed to lobby for changes in the law, CND points out that no part of British nuclear policy is in fact established on the statute book.

Clubbable

Nightclubbers in Birmingham should soon notice a strange phenomenon — almost a contradiction in terms — the courteous bouncer. Aware of the need to sweeten its image, particularly in the light of its bid to hold the 1992 Olympics, the city is embarking on a programme of training people in the tourism industry. For bouncers this includes college courses in racial awareness and, of course, "interpersonal skills".

Spotted on a car sticker in London's West End: "I owe, I owe, so it's off to work I go."

Shrink rap

Deep in our subconscious we all want to make jokes about Sigmund Freud. I discovered that much at the opening on Monday of the Freud Museum in his old house in Maresfield Gardens, Hampstead. The wise guys didn't crack up; they cracked jokes, such as, "Shouldn't that be Nightmaresfield Gardens?" and "The blue plaque says Freud Dreamt Here". Even the Israeli ambassador, Yehuda Aneve, got in on



THE TIMES DIARY

the act. In his speech, he noted that Freud once lived in the same Viennese street as Theodor Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement. They never met, but what, he wondered, if Freud had told Herzl what his dream of a Jewish state really meant?

HisTory

It is an article of faith among Conservatives that Dudley Council has proved just how "cost-effective" and efficient local government can be. A little disappointing, then, to find that the new and updated publication just launched to trumpet the borough's successes under the Tories is itself less than faultless. The *Dudley Experience II* bills its author, Councillor Jack Edmonds OBE, as "leader of Dudley MBC" — a job

moreover... Miles Kington

PM in House charge shock!

THE YEAR IN PARLIAMENT: CONCLUSION

Yesterday we brought you highlights from the year's proceedings, including Tam Dalyell's amazing revelation that Mrs Thatcher was Jack the Ripper. Today we bring you more from the cradle of democracy.

Nigel Lawson (Chancellor): Turning now to sanctions against South Africa, I propose to bring the black citizens of South Africa into a democratic framework by imposing swinging tax increases on them, and by putting 10p on a pint on maize beer.

Denis Healey: Has anyone seen my eyebrows? Rev Ian Paisley: Does the Prime Minister not realize that if she does not withdraw the whole Anglo-Irish Agreement at this very moment in time, she will be struck dead by a thunderbolt buried by God in exactly five minutes?

Eric Heffer (Labour MP for Mersey, Far Left): Could not the money involved in financing a thunderbolt... to strike Mrs Thatcher dead be put to better use, such as having a Garden Festival in Kiev?

Tam Dalyell: I have in my possession here the most positive evidence that Mrs Thatcher had full prior knowledge of the thunderbolt that is about to strike her dead in about four minutes, and I demand that she acknowledge her guilt.

Dr David Owen: It strikes me as most curious that while God is allowed to maintain this independent deterrent, there are many in this country who would give up our own independent weapon.

Eric Heffer: Many in your own party, you mean! Owen: I shall treat that remark with the dignity it deserves. Speaker: Thank you, the next Prime Minister of Britain. And the next guest on the show is... Neil Kinnock: An unemployed teacher from South Wales. Speaker: And your question? Kinnock: Well, Sir Robin, I'd just like to know why it is that Mrs Thatcher can never bring herself to answer any of the questions that are put to her, why she seems totally incapable of ever showing any measure of regret,

may remorse, may repentance, may sorrow, for anything she has ever done, and why it is that the spectacle of three million people unemployed never seems to cause her any chagrin, any grief, any a bit of discomfort?

Thatcher: Because the Right Honourable Gentleman takes so long to ask the question, I can never remember what it was. Enoch Powell (MP for Overseas): May I remind the House, if they had forgotten that thunderbolt is due to strike the Prime Minister in one minute, and may I inquire, if God, by this action, is not trying to hold us to ransom?

Terry Waite (Bishop of the Archdiocese of Canterbury): Did I hear the word "thunderbolt"? Kinnock: No case too complicated, nothing too far-fung — and we guarantee you exposure on *The World This Week!* Just get in touch with Uncle Terry! (There is a loud explosion and a flash of light as a thunderbolt hits Mrs Thatcher. As the smoke and flames clear, she is seen to be totally unharmed.)

Kinnock: Perhaps the Prime Minister would care to explain the criticism which seems inherent in a thunderbolt sent by God. Thatcher: I fully reject this thunderbolt. I consider that it has been unleashed on me by a deity who knows little of the factors involved, and is considerably less qualified than my personal staff.

Kinnock: If you consider yourself in such a light, perhaps then you would care to explain to us the secrets of the Universe? Thatcher: I have nothing to add to my previous answers, in which wisdom is contained.

Michael Foot: That reminds me of a long and rather involved story about Stanley Baldwin and the 1935 Cup Final. (Stampede of all present for the door, except for...)

Speaker: This session of Parliament was sponsored by South-East Concrete Holdings, makers of fine concrete objects since 1967. Our show will be back again in the autumn and I hope you can make a date with us then, to find out if Neil will ever get Maggie to apologize for anything, if the two Davids are still engaged to be married, and if long lost CND is back again; till then, keep voting!



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

LABOUR'S NEW FACES

In recent months the Labour Party has come to look more like a credible candidate for government. The reality may not equal the appearance, and Labour's revival owes much to the Government's mistakes and misfortunes. But appearances will count in the coming political battle. In contrast to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnock appears as an engaging character who (at least when not orating) seems relaxed, uncontrived, amiable and even humorous.

He is, furthermore, a man of the left who, by virtue of his left-wing credentials, has been able to lead his party back from the wilder and more unpopular courses into which it had charged under Mr Michael Foot. Mr Kinnock also has around him a group of moderates, Mr Hattersley, Mr Healey, Dr John Cunningham and Mr John Smith.

All of them, in terms of policy, know what to say and what not to say if they are to avoid rubbing the electorate up the wrong way. They recognize that socialism as it was preached under Mr Foot repels voters.

In consequence, some policies have been renamed and repackaged; thus nationalisation becomes "social ownership" and is pushed to the back of the shelf. Parts of the Thatcher revolution (union ballots, council house sales) have been absorbed in Labour's thinking, though they could well be amended in ways which fundamentally change them. Not least, Mr Kinnock has fiercely declared war on the Militant Tendency, thus distracting attention from the embarrassing extent to which other leftist groups have infiltrated the party.

Put all this together with the widespread discontent over unemployment and the shortcomings of the hospitals and schools, not to mention the disillusion with the Government which set in after the Westland affair, and it is clear that the Conservatives have a problem. Perhaps most dangerously, whereas the Tories have failed to modulate and develop their song to suit changed conditions, Labour seems to be whistling a more captivating melody.

Moreover, notwithstanding the Liberals' near capture of Newcastle - under - Lyme, the Alliance has sunk back over

recent months and Labour has shown that it can recapture marginal seats which it has usually taken on a swing of the pendulum. Fulham is still a more significant result than Newcastle. With a public opinion poll rating of around 40 per cent recently, Labour's recovery is still modest but once again there is a certain tremulous concern in the City and industry.

In fact, there is a superficial similarity to 1964 when Harold Wilson, building on Gaitskill's victory over the left, presented his party as one to which moderate voters could rally; one offering not class strife but social amelioration, classless unity and co-operation between both sides of industry and the government. Now, once again, talk of social justice is in the air, and Mr Kinnock is capitalizing on it.

Yet the reality is very different. Harold Wilson genuinely thought he was entering a new social democratic era, and indeed his own parliamentary party was moderate. But trade unions destroyed that hope, and the party duly swung to the left.

The report by Peter Truscott and George Brock which we publish today shows that three-quarters of the Labour candidates for 121 marginal seats (the great majority of which Labour must win to obtain power) are on the left of the party. The Labour Party in power would be one in which the right had lost its overall majority. By far the largest group would be the soft-left, but such is the transformation of Labour's nomenclature that most of these would have looked pretty hard in 1964.

Initially Mr Kinnock may be able to control his party through the payroll vote, but when policies begin to go against the left it would be a different matter. The contrast in policies with 1964 is stark. With defence, for instance, everyone knew in 1964 that the "renegotiation" of Polaris was a sop to quieten the left and that things would go on as they were, which they did. Today, it is much more likely that a Labour government would mean a sharp rupture in defence and foreign policy, scrapping Polaris, cancelling Trident and shutting down US nuclear bases.

However cautious Labour purports to be about renationalization and spending targets, it can hardly expect confidence from the financial world when it proposes not only to increase government shareholding to control large concerns but also intends to pay for its "regeneration" of industry by using tax sanctions to enforce repatriation of overseas investments, which would then be deployed as the state National Investment Bank thought fit.

We would also be back with the policy of vainly seeking union acquiescence in pay restraint by social spending on child benefits, pensions, unemployment benefit, not to mention the NHS and overseas aid, much of it in the first year. A vast redistribution from so-called rich taxpayers earning more than £27,000 a year is to pay for social benefits costing £3.6 billion.

It does not need much imagination to see how such proposals could set off a financial crisis and how bitterly the dominant left in the party would resist the traditional claim of retrenchment. The harsh fact is that Mr Kinnock's and Mr Hattersley's policies, however dressed up, make little more sense than those of Mr Michael Foot and Mr Peter Shore.

Perhaps more fundamentally, Labour's instincts remain deeply apart from those of the great majority of ordinary citizens. From immigration to education, what Labour would like to do is not what most people want from their government. When Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman, admitted recently that the party had been mistaken over education standards and had become out of touch with parents, he said something important. That error arose from the party's obsession with a theoretical egalitarianism with which most people have no sympathy, but it is only one manifestation of it.

Mr Kinnock and his friends are moderates. But the electorate does not fail to see the unrepresentative and intolerant nature of so much Labour local government and to some extent judges the party by it. It will likewise take the measure of the party that will be on Mr Kinnock's backbenches if he has a majority.

'Dire threat' to medical advance

From the Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation and others

Sir, Attention has been drawn in your columns (May 13, 29 June 10) to the serious situation with regard to National Health Service medicine in London. It is not generally appreciated that academic medicine within the University of London is also under serious threat.

The British Postgraduate Medical Federation (BPMF), the largest postgraduate medical school in the university, constitutes a unique national resource, linking major endeavours in medical research with the specialised clinical practice of world-renowned hospitals such as Great Ormond Street, the Brompton, Moorfields, the Maudsley, the Marsden and the National Hospital, Queen's Square.

This year the federation is faced with a deficit of more than £600,000 as a result of a shortfall in the grant it has received from the University of London. This in turn reflects the reduced allocation to the university by the University Grants Committee.

The deficit is compounded by a change in university policy, so that running costs of newly commissioned buildings would no longer be made available and badly needed new accommodation in three institutes may have to be moth-balled.

This state of affairs is particularly sad since the constituent institutes of the federation have been progressively more successful year by year in attracting substantial grants for medical research. The implementation of these research projects is now seriously threatened by the sheer difficulty of running the institutions.

Professorial medical units contribute greatly to patient care, to the training of young clinicians, many of whom are destined to enter the National Health Service, and to improved medical care. No one witnessing the spectacular advances in medicine in recent years can doubt the achievements that have been made.

Clinical research, which has always been a strong feature of British medicine, is now under dire threat; once its base has been eroded it will be extremely difficult to re-establish. Yours faithfully, DAVID INNES WILLIAMS, Director, British Postgraduate Medical Federation.

R. K. BLACH, Dean, Institute of Ophthalmology, P. J. GRAHAM, Dean, Institute of Child Health, JOHN MARSHALL, Dean, Institute of Neurology, P. MCKELVIE, Dean, Institute of Laryngology & Otolaryngology, ROBIN M. MURRAY, Dean, Institute of Psychiatry, M. J. PECKHAM, Dean, Institute of Cancer Research, (Director-elect, BPMF), F. D. THOMPSON, Dean, Institute of Urology, MARGARET TURNER-WARWICK, Dean, Cardiothoracic Institute, G. B. WINTER, Dean, Institute of Dental Surgery, British Postgraduate Medical Federation, Central Office, 33 Millman Street, WC1, July 25.

The Navy in Spain

From Captain Derrick Ferguson, RN (ret)

Sir, One of the interesting aspects of our humanitarian work in Spain (letter from Canon R. Collins, July 21) was the rate of exchange for refugees. I served as signal officer in HMS Codrington during the Civil War and well remember one exchange when we went alongside the mole at Barcelona to collect 50 nuns released by Government forces. These, of

Fighting spirit

From Mr D. S. McKie

Sir, Why all the fuss over the decline of team sports in schools? The problem with rugby, football and cricket may not be that they are competitive, but that they are not competitive enough.

Team spirit and joint effort are good, but if pupils are turning to the more individually demanding sports such as squash, badminton, running, gymnastics, swimming

Cut off

From Lady Macdonald of Macdonald

Sir, Oh, the sheer frustration of trying to run a business, dependent as we are on British Telecom. Our home is a small hotel, of some repute, and 90 per cent of our bookings are telephoned ones. This year our telephones have

Leavis and the ladies

From Dr D. W. Stooke

Sir, If Martin Cropper thinks that Jane Eyre is a leading novel in the "Leavis canon" (review, July 24) he cannot know very much about Dr Leavis. Indeed, if he did, he would not have gone on to commit the gross literary solecism of describing Charlotte Brontë's mind as "provincial". He couldn't possibly be confusing her with George Eliot, could he?

Yours faithfully, DAVID COTGROVE, 101 Leinster Avenue, Shoeburyness, Essex, July 19.

Crown plans for St John's Lodge

From Mr Anthony Jacobs

Sir, It is a very great pity that the proposal by Mr Fred Koch to establish St John's Lodge, Regent's Park, as an art gallery and study centre is not to go ahead (reports, July 28 and 29). This building is ideally suited for an art museum for Victorian paintings and Victorian furniture.

Mr Koch's planning requirements may have been excessive, but the Crown Estate Commissioners who are responsible for all the buildings in Regent's Park regretfully work under the principle that if Nash had wanted any 20th century improvements to his buildings he would have taken care to design and construct them in the 19th century when he lived.

The Crown Estate have done a first-class job in restoring the Nash buildings throughout Regent's Park after the war they were in danger of being demolished. However, their present policy is to restrict changes to the minimum, not only to the external facades of the buildings which are rightfully preserved, but also to every matter regarding the internal structures. For example, they will allow no lateral conversions of any original residential property in the park nor will they allow any such changes as those at either end of Chester Terrace which were designed by Nash to look as a single house, to be joined together internally. Nash's reasons at that time were those of a commercial developer unable to sell the very large houses and thereby forced to divide them internally.

Equally, permission is no longer given for lifts to be installed in five-storey houses, presumably on the principle that if you maintain Victorian buildings the domestic staff frequently employed in such homes should relive the Victorian experience of running up and down many flights of stairs. They have even gone so far as to state that they would like it possible to remove the lifts that have been installed in those houses which were fortunate enough to carry out their alterations in the 1930s.

I wish Mr Koch the best of good fortune and hope he will not discontinue his attempt to persuade the authorities to set up St John's Lodge as a museum. The nation will be the poorer if he is unsuccessful. Yours sincerely, ANTHONY JACOBS (Crown Estate Paving Commissioner), 9 Nottingham Terrace, NW1, July 29.

Adult-proof

From Mr R. A. Kenward

Sir, Pharmacists have for some years been instructed by their professional body to supply all tablets and capsules in CRCs, i.e., child-resistant containers (there being no such thing as a childproof container) unless a request to the contrary is made to the pharmacist when the prescription is submitted for dispensing.

The rationale for this is that the widespread use of CRCs demonstrably reduces the annual toll of child poisonings due to ingestion of parents' and others' prescribed drugs. Your correspondent (July 28) and others should note, therefore, that the remedy to their problem is simple, readily available, and in their own hands. Ask your pharmacist.

Yours faithfully, R. A. KENWARD, Stoke Green Pharmacy, 55 Binley Road, Coventry, West Midlands, July 28.

The taxman goeth

From the Chairman of the Board of HM Customs and Excise

Sir, In your leader of July 28 about Inland Revenue you ask rhetorically whether it is necessarily demotivating for an under-secretary in, say, the Scottish Office to receive less than an under-secretary responsible for the VAT empire.

I am not going to argue with you about whether a special position in matters of cash and manpower should be accorded to those who gather income for the State or perform a law and order function. I do, however, wish to correct your implication that VAT is collected by Inland Revenue. Ever since it was introduced in 1973 it has been administered by HM Customs and Excise.

Yours faithfully, A. M. FRASER, Chairman, The Board of HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, EC3, July 28.

Not cricket?

From Mr D. L. Stebbings

Sir, Following the felling of Bruce French by Richard Hadlee at Lord's on Friday (report, July 26) Michael Gattling is reported to have suggested that the helmet worn by batsmen should be redesigned. It is ironic that of all ball games, cricket is the only one which permits a deliberate attempt to injure an opponent.

Might I suggest that it is the rules, and not the helmet, which call for redesign. Yours faithfully, DAVID STEBBINGS, 1 Wapping Pierhead, Wapping High Street, E1, July 26.

ON THIS DAY

JULY 30 1945

Fighting was still going on in Burma when the Fourteenth Army was mapping out, for the dropping of the atomic bombs was still some days ahead. The Times speculated on military developments in South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific areas, but paused to salute the Eighth Army before its name passed into history.

THE EIGHTH ARMY

It is announced that the headquarters of the Eighth Army has ceased to exist. Many of the troops which formed part of it in the last victorious offensive in Italy are still performing their duties in their distant stations and the last of its commanders, LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR R. L. McCREERY, is commander-in-chief of the British zone in Austria. But the Eighth Army as such is no more. No British army, perhaps no single army of any nationality, has so forcefully impressed itself upon the imagination of the world or so deeply endeared itself to the British public. It was fighting, with variable fortunes at times when there were no other British armies in the field. From the moment when the initiative returned to our arms it never knew defeat. It ended in several campaigns and its many battles with a last brilliant victory in the Mediterranean theatre, in which it passed its whole existence. It campaigned always in climates where, in spite of the intervals of snow, rain, and mud, an army becomes "supple as steel and brown as leather," and as such it will ever be remembered.

The Eighth Army was created from the forces in the Middle East Command, and its parent may be said to have been the Western Desert Force, entitled by MR. CHURCHILL the Army of the Nile, which, under the command of GENERAL MAITLAND WILSON and the supreme direction of GENERAL W. V. WELLB, won the first great victory over the Italians in the Western Desert.

And then in the last week of October (1942) the Eighth Army launched the greatest and most famous of its offensives and followed up its victory by hustling the Afrika Korps right across North Africa. It was now upon the highway of success. It broke the Mareth line and entered Tunisia to take its part with the First Army and the American forces already engaged there in bringing resistance to an end and utterly destroying the last armies of the Axis in Africa.

The summer of 1943 witnessed the lightning campaign which overran Sicily and brought the Eighth Army, still under GENERAL MONTGOMERY's command, to the mainland of Europe. From the September day on which it advanced upon the last German position, the "Goose" of Italy was to fight for over eighteen months always on the Adriatic flank of the Apennines, save for the odd occasion when it moved across them in secret to take part in the battle which smashed the Gustav and Adolf Hitler lines. In concert with the Fifth Army, its companions throughout the Italian campaign, it brought about the unconditional surrender of the enemy's forces in Italy and in the Austrian provinces which had formed the rearward areas of the German command and through which its lines of communication had run. About a million men then laid down their arms.

In the course of nearly four years the constitution of the Eighth Army changed over and over again. The Australians who had served to it so gallantly and effectively returned to their own land to defend it against the Japanese. Some of the British and Indian troops also went east. From Italy divisions, including the famous "Desert Rats", were withdrawn to take part in the invasion of France in the Twenty-first Army Group. At a later stage still its Canadian army corps was transferred to France to reinforce the other formations took their places. Some of them, like the hard-fighting Polish army corps, not belonging to the British Army or to the forces of the British Commonwealth, its character must have changed as its composition changed, and yet it seemed to preserve throughout some of the characteristics by which it had become known to the world. Its eccentricities and private sense of humour have been set on record in the cartoons of the "Two Types" which have appeared regularly in the Eighth Army News and should certainly be preserved for posterity in volume form. It would be sentimental to regard the passing of an army formed only for active service and destined to disappear with the advent of victory. Its task is done, and its reward can be given only in the coin of remembrance and of gratitude.

Great Eastern

From Mr R. F. C. Thomas

Sir, The first operational cable across the Atlantic was laid not by the Great Eastern (On This Day, July 16) but jointly by HMS Agamemnon and USS Niagara in June, 1857, starting in mid-Atlantic and sailing towards their respective shores. Although short-lived due to technical shortcomings it was operational for a number of weeks and carried an exchange of greetings between Queen Victoria and President Lincoln upon its inauguration.

After the Great Eastern lay of 1866 workable sections of the 1857 operation were incorporated in additional transatlantic cables. Yours faithfully, R. F. C. THOMAS, 177 Windsor Road, Torquay, Devon, July 22.

QUALITY CONTROL IN SCHOOLS

The sum of £2.9 billion to settle teachers' pay makes for a compelling headline, even after it is adjusted for time and money on account. When it is accompanied by pictures of grinning National Union of Teachers' officials and reports of a stupid statement by the local authorities' leader virtually inviting further strikes by teachers unless the Government pays, there will be many who will jump to the conclusion that the Government has lost a battle at some considerable public expense.

The reasoning of defeat is as follows. The public will punish with their votes a Government which can be held responsible for further disruption in the schools. The teacher unions - reflecting, it is only fair to say, deep feelings among their members - would find it easy to foment trouble in the autumn term if the Government does not give positive signs of acceptance of the deal just struck. Therefore the Government has scant choice but to find the money for the settlement. And that will mean raiding the Contingency Reserve and/or condoning significant rate increases despite its recent prediction that 1987's rates need scarcely rise at all. On that reasoning the teacher unions, now in cahoots with the local authorities, have scored a notable victory.

Such reasoning is wrong, and Mr Baker (as he picks over the detail of the proposed settlement before recommending it to his Cabinet colleagues)

would do well quickly to rebut it. The Government, notably the Prime Minister and the former Secretary of State for Education, have made large errors in their handling of the teachers' dispute, errors of rhetorical tone and of timing.

The local education authorities cannot be exonerated and it sadly goes without saying that the NUT has on more than one occasion behaved with a braggadocio and selfishness which, if it is representative of the manners and mood of teachers in the classroom, is a sad augury of how bad things are in the schools. But what Mr Baker has inherited is actually something rather impressive.

Think back to the beginning of the dispute in the autumn of 1984, and how difficult it seemed then to get all the teachers' bodies to accept a package which specified, for the first time ever, the hours and broad duties of teachers, which introduced the principle of assessment of teachers' performance, which in short inserted into any bargain to be struck about remuneration a regime for the better management of the schools and their staff. It is no exaggeration to speak of a revolution of attitude in the acceptance at all levels of the education system of a relationship, however imprecise the figuring, between money and performance. The education system is not one for overnight change. Mr Baker has the opportunity to stage-manage a once-for-all revision which -

if he is sincere about creating an education system to serve the country in the 1990s - will work beneficial effects over the long run.

But caveats and qualifications abound. Shirt-sleeved negotiations in a Coventry hotel have left sensitive points unresolved. Teachers have apparently not yet been pinned down on covering for absent colleagues: this is a vital test of good faith, for during the dispute cover has been used ruthlessly as a weapon. Every one of the positive definitions of teachers' duties depend on the willingness of the local education authorities to manage or, better still, stiffen the management potential of headteachers and school governors.

No one can pretend satisfaction with machinery for negotiation that leaves local authorities to strike bargains and central government to pick up the bill (though bargaining over police pay is similar). The Burnham apparatus is wrecked. Yet here again is Mr Baker's opportunity. The machine has to be reconstructed to bring together in a single forum talks on pay and conditions. The process has begun, for in the - as yet incomplete - negotiations that have taken place over the past few days between councils and teachers, the qualities and quantities of schooling have at least been discussed together. That is a considerable achievement and Mr Baker should not be shy of commending it to colleagues worried about the price of this settlement.

beat examination, whether in the form of bore, submerged tube or bridge.

We should now use our largest unspanned river estuary to serve as an example of our skills and as a practical demonstration of our commitment to Europe and the Channel Tunnel.

Yours faithfully, DAVID COTGROVE, 101 Leinster Avenue, Shoeburyness, Essex, July 19.

Across the Thames

From Mr David F. Cotgrove

Sir, Any analysis of traffic flows involving the "Chunnel" will show a high demand for a route to the North via a Thames crossing downstream from London. It is at the Dartford Tunnel where the first obstacle to an even flow will be encountered.

Notwithstanding the Dartford system's planned third bore, its capacity at peak times will almost certainly be swamped by the natural increase in traffic, let alone

the added effect of the Channel Tunnel. Relatively trivial accidents involving large vehicles on the Dartford approaches will still be able to paralyse the system.

Surely it is time that we ceased putting all our eggs in one basket. Consideration should be given to the provision of another crossing site, strategically placed to complement the Dartford complex, and situated some distance downstream. An extension of the A130 southwards to link with the M2 west of the Medway Bridge would

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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Executive Secretary

Swiss Re (UK) has an opportunity for an experienced Secretary to work for the Assistant General Manager who heads the Life and Investment Division.

This position requires someone with a mature attitude to work and a friendly and helpful personality. Experience in the Life Assurance industry, or in the law or accountancy profession would be an advantage.

The person appointed will be well presented as there will be contact with clients, staff and management at all levels. Duties will also include arranging meetings and managing a busy diary.

It is essential to have good audio typing skills, and WP experience would be an advantage. The successful applicant will be required to operate an IBM Displaywriter for which full training will be given if necessary. Applicants should have a good academic education and preferably be aged 25+.

An attractive salary and good conditions of employment are offered, including a season ticket loan scheme, Lunchtime Vouchers, non-contributory pension scheme, life assurance and after a qualifying period, a mortgage subsidy.

Applications in writing, with a full CV, should be sent to: Mr. W. Oyston, Swiss Reinsurance Company (UK) Ltd, 108 Cannon Street, London EC4N 3HE.

Swiss Re (UK)

FED UP WITH TRAVELLING IN?

THERE ARE SENIOR SECRETARIAL
ROLES (JUST) NORTH OF WATFORD!

We are part of a Swiss multi-national organisation, best known for 'Ovaline' in the U.K. We can offer a career move to a 'top-notch' candidate as Secretary to the Chief Executive, a demanding and interesting role which will appeal to only the most professional of secretaries.

We offer a salary of around £9,000 and an attractive and stimulating environment.

We would prefer your C.V. otherwise apply directly for an application form to:-

Ann Forbes
(Personnel Administrator)
Wander Limited, Station Road,
King's Langley, Hertfordshire. WD4 8LJ.
Tel: King's Langley 66122.

UK BRANCH OF MAJOR CONTRACTING GROUP SECRETARY/PA

required with prior experience working at senior level. Must have experience with W.P. or P.C. Database. Basic knowledge of French is required.

HIGH SALARY COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE

Send C.V. CGEE ALSTHOM, Granville House,
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What's the difference between last year's temporaries and this?

Manpower takes care to assign its temporaries for their skills, personality, and type of work. So we pay accordingly... and as time goes on and our people build service and team extra skills, we recognise their progress. Whilst this happens at the time, we've just set out our new pay structure increasing on average 7% increase, making most of our people around 10% better off than this time last year.

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£10,000 + BONUS

This leading co needs a well presented PA/Sec with good skills to assist a Director and his team. This is a very involving position and needs someone who is organised, methodical, good at handling clients and coping well under pressure.

A PEOPLE
PERSON
TO £11,500

This is an exciting search on location SW1 needs a well educated PA/Sec with good skills and friendly disposition to assist an exec. You will deal with the top side of business. German would be an advantage as well as being well organised and good with clients.

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Lively secretary/typist/receptionist with some experience in audio required for professional/estate agency office in pleasant surroundings. Salary £8,000 p.a.

947 9833.

LIBERTY

Personnel Administrator

Our highly professional and busy Personnel Department requires a very bright, enthusiastic and able Administrator to become involved in all aspects of the Department.

Aged 24-28, with 80wpm shorthand and 50wpm typing, your prime role will be to administer the groups profit, pensions maternity and commission schemes.

A flair for administration is essential as is experience of wordprocessing and some personnel experience would be an advantage.

Secretary to Branch Director

The Branch Director is responsible for the smooth running of an expanding UK Liberty branch operation. The Director's Secretary plays a vital role in organising workloads, making travel arrangements, preparing reports, taking minutes, arranging seminars and liaising regularly with the branches.

Aged 25-38, 100wpm shorthand and 50wpm typing is required as is the ability to communicate at all levels.

You must possess a strong personality and have had previous experience of working with senior management.

Both these positions offer a highly competitive salary, generous staff discounts, business dress allowance, group profit share scheme, contributory pension scheme and 20 days holiday.

Please contact Elizabeth Perry at RES on 01-486 0613 (Monday to Friday 9.30-5.30) or on 0932 228588 (Saturday 10.00-4.00).

RES Recruitment Enhancement Services
62/4 Baker Street, London, NW1 2EJ

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

Personnel Department Secretary c. £8,367 - £9,219

As a member of this busy, informal department you will be involved in every aspect of the personnel function and will be expected to handle enquiries and liaise effectively with staff at all levels. Responsibilities include the provision of full secretarial services to three people and clerical duties connected with recruitment, training and other departmental activities.

Applicants must be competent typists. Ideally with word processing/audio skills; previous personnel experience would be advantageous.

Staff benefits include season ticket loan and free tickets to the National Film Theatre.

Application form and further details from Personnel Department,
27 Charing Cross Road,
London WC2H 0EA.
Telephone 01-437 4855.
Closing date: 14th
August 1986. We are an
Equal Opportunities
Employer.

SECRETARY

to Director of Finance
£9,088 to £10,800pa

This is an opportunity for an experienced Secretary to become involved at Director level and undertake a wide range of administrative actions to assist the Director.

You will need first class secretarial skills together with planning and administrative skills. We will train you to use a Hermes electronic typing system and to use a computer terminal. Benefits include 32 days holiday and interest free season ticket loan. Close to Oxford Circus and Bond St. tubes.

For full details and application form write to the Personnel Officer, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB or telephone 01-409 3333 Ext. 343, returning the forms by 11th August 1986.

The RCN actively discourages smoking in all its premises.

Art Gallery

£8,000

Leading London gallery require a professional secretary. This is a varied, interesting role which includes a high degree of client contact in addition to looking after correspondence, mailings and general office admin. Languages, like work experience, are desirable but not essential. However, you should have a lively mind, flexible approach and good shorthand/typing (90/50). Age 20+. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

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MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

ITALIAN: Personal Secretary (25-35) with good spoken Italian and faultless English to assist Manager of financial services firm, City. £9,000-£10,000.

FRENCH: New leisure industry job for secretary (25-40) with English shorthand and fluent French (German useful). To £9,000 with lots of interesting extras.

SPANISH: Bilingual secretary (late 20's on) with English shorthand (Spanish shorthand useful), to look after two Directors, City. Lots of language work. To £9,500 plus restaurant, sports facilities etc.

GERMAN: Mature, business-orientated PA to play important developing role in small management consultancy, NW1. Must have perfect German and very good English. To £12,000.

01 836 3794

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Personnel Admin

to £9,500

Looking for a step away from secretarial? This dynamic young company has already attracted attention through the speed and success of its recent expansion. Growth continues - and a Personnel Assistant is now required to handle a wide range of admin/computer duties. You will need initiative, an appetite for hard work, a sense of humour and an eye for detail. Good keyboard skills (50wpm) requested. Age 23+. Call 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants

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£2,000 Neg

We are a leading International Advertising Agency in Mayfair and are looking for a young experienced secretary to work for one of our Client Services Director.

This demanding and interesting job requires excellent secretarial skills, initiative, enthusiasm and the ability to liaise with both staff and clients at all levels.

If you have an interest in advertising and are looking for a new challenge enjoying all the benefits of being part of a team within a large successful agency, please telephone Susanna Jacobsen on 01-829 8496.

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR FOR SPECIALIST CONSULTANCY

c. £12,000

We are a small hard working team based in offices just off the Haymarket. If you have experience, some shorthand and good typing skills, you will be just what we are looking for. Enthusiasm, adaptability and first class references required. Send your application with full CV to:
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16 Charles II Street, London SW1.

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This summer, join an exclusive and upwardly-mobile elite. The pick of London's prestige jobs. Rewards that pay full recognition to excellence. And something more. Longer-term career growth. Financially our pay structure reflects your development. So too our training unit, where without charge or obligation you can bring your self up to date on the latest in WP. Find out more about upmarket temping. Call today. 01-495 5787.

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TOP SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

Top salary for senior Secretary/Administrator in sales office.
Opportunity to join rapidly expanding company manufacturing and marketing specialist plant window coatings.

Write with full particulars to:
The Managing Director,
S.A.S. Ltd,
33 Richmond, London W1.

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£11,000

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£10,000

Enjoy variety and constant contact with clients. Organise numerous social and promotional events working for a senior manager of this prestigious advertising agency. 55/90wpm skills needed.

Please call Debbie Berkovich, Anna Friend, Judi Osborne or Eileen Richardson
8 am - 8.30 pm.

409 2393

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
110 NEWBOND ST, LONDON W1

Home Secretary no. City secretaries yes.

STOCKBROKING EXPERIENCE?

AUDIO SECRETARY

£9,000 + BONUS

If you know a little about the stock market, the best restaurants in town and who's who in the investment world, then our client needs you!

Your excellent secretarial skills and stockbroking experience will ensure that the Private Client department of this prestigious organisation runs on oiled wheels and provides a first class service to investors.

For more details of this exciting opportunity and other positions that we are recruiting for, please ring Jean Crowson-Bull for an initial recruitment appointment on 586 0115.

Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants, 145 Morgan Lane EC2

LATE EVENING EVERY THURSDAY TILL 8PM

Ask ALFRED MARKS

VIDEO PRODUCTION IN COVENT GARDEN

This well-known company in the heart of Covent Garden is looking for cool-headed Receptionist/Administrator. If you like the idea of working in a young, busy, stimulating and can cope with a variety of duties, then this could be an exciting entrance into the world of video production. Good typing is essential. Free lunch + other benefits. Age 20+. Salary up to £4,500.

MARVELOUS MULTIMATE, WONDERFUL WANG!

If you are a genius at Multimate or Wang word processing then we can offer you instant temporary bookings at top rates - especially if you have shorthand as well. Our clients range from smart multimillionaires to informal PR companies, so for variety, interest and high rewards, please contact us now.

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
30 FLORAL STREET WC2

01-379 3535

COLLEGE LEAVERS

We are currently seeking junior secretaries (with or without shorthand) for positions in the following areas:-
PERSONNEL £7,500
US BANKING £8,000
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An experienced secretary with WP skills within the Caroline King temporary team can expect to earn in excess of the above while enjoying a variety of assignments in all areas of London. We also have a great demand for shorthand, audio and copy skills. Please telephone Brenda Stewart for an immediate appointment.

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01-499 8070

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CHARTER CLINICS

SENIOR SECRETARY

Circa £9,000 + benefits

The Administrator of our Private Psychiatric Hospital in Chelsea is looking for an experienced, versatile secretary with shorthand and audio skills.

A good educational background is required, together with word processing ability or willingness to learn. Confidentiality is important, as is the need to use initiative and discretion. For further details please contact the Personnel Department on 01-561 1272

THE ROYAL SOCIETY for the encouragement of ARTS Manufacturers and Commerce

The RSA's environment section needs a Secretary for the small team working on a varied programme of conferences, seminars, awards schemes and publications. Good organisational skills, accurate typing and an ability to work on own initiative are essential. An interest in environmental issues would be an advantage. Salary in the region of £8,000 pa, 5 weeks holiday, flexible working hours, luncheon vouchers, interest free season ticket loan available.

Please apply to:
Mr James Richardson
RSA
8 John Adam Street
London WC2N 6EZ

The closing date for applications is
13th August 1986

BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association has a vacancy for a Bookkeeper/Secretary. Applicants should possess bookkeeping experience up to Trial Balance as well as appropriate shorthand and typing. Salary based on the UK Civil Service scales. Applicants should write in confidence enclosing C.V. to:-

Dr. D. Toakins
Secretary General
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Headquarters Secretariat
Palace of Westminster
7 Old Palace Yard
London SW1P 3JY

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Enthusiastic and cheerful person required for small, busy Marketing/Design company in South Kensington. Must be well-presented, with good telephone manner and typing ability. Split 2nd job: Hours 9 - 5.30. Salary £2,500

Please write enclosing CV to:
Nigel Swaby & Partners
7 - 8 Kendrick Mews
South Kensington, London SW7 3BG

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Are you wondering if you'll ever find another job you like?
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You should talk to Amanda Barrington.

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+ TRAVEL £17,000+

The Managing Director of an international company needs an extremely competent, hard working person to arrange all his business matters. Travelling regularly you need to be exceptionally well presented, organised and able to cope with constant pressure and immensely complex responsibilities. Skills 110/60, overseas and executive secretarial experience essential. Excellent benefits for a committed person in this fascinating position. Age 27-33. Please ring 434 4512.

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required for Browns

Must have at least 5 years experience dealing with designer clothes. Good conditions. Salary negotiable.

Phone Browns 01-491 7833

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

And now for something completely different....

Have you been wishfully thinking about escaping from the pressures and pace of town for a peaceful country village. If so, what has deterred you? Is it the difficulty of finding a high-powered, demanding job? The problem of accommodation in the country? The thought that you would miss the sociability of the city life? The lack of experience in a field other than secretarial?

If this is what has been holding you back, we may have the answer. We have a very beautiful 17th century thatched country pub in Wiltshire, and since we arrived there two and a half years ago we have increased the turnover five-fold while retaining the style and charm of the building. We offer excellent fresh home-cooked food, well-kept real ales, a comprehensive wine list and an extremely high standard of service, in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

We desperately need management assistance, and the qualities we are seeking are those possessed by a really top-class secretary with some years' experience, preferably at board level. Experience in this trade is not essential, but applicants must have administrative ability, be competent in staff management, have a friendly personality, a tactful attitude, be prepared to work all the hours God sends and to settle for nothing less than the best.

The position is open to single applicants only, preferably in the age bracket of late twenties to late forties.

Please write to Box No. G36.

SEARCH FOR A STAR to £13,000 a.a.e.

Make the most of your talents when you join this firm of Executive Search Consultants in W.I. As the lynch pin of the small, hectic team you will handle all administrative matters (including book-keeping) and provide audio secretarial back-up to the M.D. You should be accustomed to dealing in a professional manner at senior level, both in person and on the telephone, and be able to handle your own correspondence. Only those with a proven track record, a high degree of numeracy and initiative, social poise and an outstanding sense of humour need apply. Benefits include free lunch and occasional champagne! Please telephone 434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Office Administrator £12,000

A successful, creative company needs an experienced administrator to co-ordinate the smooth running of their office.

If you are aged between 35-40, have previous office management and book-keeping experience, then please send your full CV to Sarah Hazell, Hazell-Staton Associates Ltd, 8 Golden Square, London W1R 3AF. Skills: 50 upm.

Advertising £9,000

If you are looking for a challenging second job and like the idea of working in advertising, why not come in to discuss your next move with us.

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We are handling a super college leaver job which is a stepping stone into the exciting world of Public Relations. We are also handling vacancies for College leavers in newspaper publishing.

HAZELL-STATON

Secretarial Recruitment 01-439 6021

MEDIA - FINANCE - ADVERTISING - SALES - PERSONNEL

SECRETARIES

1. Secretary/Assistant: Student and Educational Activities.

An interesting job for an experienced secretary looking for a chance to run a general support service for staff who by the nature of their work are frequently away from the office. Salary from £8,600 - £9,800.

2. Junior Secretary: Information Services.

Competent Audio Secretary to assist the Senior Secretary dealing with correspondence related to Membership and Information. There is a scope for training and advancement within a highly computerised department. Salary from £8,000 - £7,600.

3. Secretary/Assistant: Administration.

A chance to break into General Administration. Apart from good secretarial skills, you should be flexible, have a responsible approach to work and be able to get on with people at all levels. Salary from £8,600 - £9,800.

4. Floating Medical Secretaries.

Three Audio Medical Secretaries with a minimum of 3 years experience, required to work initially as floaters. The typing content of the job is high, but the work is varied and interesting. Salary from £8,100 - £8,900.

The above appointments which are open to non-smokers only, offer the following benefits: four weeks holiday; BUPA; £1 per day luncheon vouchers; season ticket loan; excellent Superannuation Scheme.

Written applications with C.V. should be submitted by Friday 15 August 1986 to:

Mrs Rosemary Adams, Assistant Secretary,
Medical Defence Union, 3, Devonshire Place, London W1N 2EA.

King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry Secretarial/Administrative Work Up to £9764

This School, part of the University of London, has the following secretarial posts available:

Personnel Secretary - Head of Dental School
A very busy, interesting job, involving a lot of contact with staff, students and patients. You will need accurate audio typing and shorthand, organising flair, a pleasant telephone manner and a cheerful disposition. Training will be given if necessary on an IBM word processor.

Secretary - Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
A busy secretarial department. You will help to organise undergraduate and postgraduate courses as well as carry out normal secretarial work. You will need general secretarial experience, with word processing experience essential. The post is initially for one year.

Administrative Secretary - Department of Medical Engineering & Physics
A multi-disciplinary, academic department, where you will need several years' wide secretarial experience. Some of it at least related to medicine. Though not essential, experience of IBM word processor would be an advantage. Further information for this post may be obtained from Professor VC Roberts on 01-463 3777 ext 3051.

For further information on any of these posts, contact the Personnel Department on 01-274 6222 ext 2040. To apply please write, enclosing your CV and names and addresses of two referees, to The Secretary of the School, King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8BU. Applications should arrive not later than 14 August 1986.

Turn a temporary job into a permanent career.

- Available immediately or currently working notice
- Proven secretarial and wp skills
- Commercial experience
- Initiative and flair

If this sounds like you then we can offer a superb opportunity to combine a marketing environment with excellent banking benefits.

Contact Liz Barratt on 01 439 0601.

MacBlain NASH Temporary Secretaries

3rd Floor, Carrington House,
130 Regent Street, London W1R 3PE.
(Entrance in Regent Pl, above Ibrora Airways)

PERSONAL SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTOR

S.M.M.T., the Trade Association of the Motor Industry in Britain, organiser of the Motor Show and other promotions seeks a Personal Secretary to the Director.

The Director requires a first class shorthand secretary who has the personal skills to deal with leading industrialists and VIPs, both British and overseas, and a range of subjects from shows to Government policies.

If you have several years experience at a senior level and are looking for a salary of circa £11,000 with an attractive package of benefits and pleasant working conditions in the Sloane Square/Knightsbridge area, please write with full details to:

Alison Jones, Personnel Administrator,
The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd,
Forbes House, Halkin Street,
London SW1X 7DE.
Telephone 01-235 7000.

International Hotels £12,000 neg

This Deputy Chief Executive needs a committed, self-motivated PA who will share his enthusiasm to build up an exciting new area of business. Situated in Mayfair, you will be setting up systems and handling business affairs while your boss travels extensively, as well as secretarial and PA duties. Age: 25-35 Skills: 100/60

PA and Admin £12,000+ package

If you gain satisfaction from working for one boss who will keep you involved in all aspects of his work, this prestigious management consultancy can offer you a senior position with admin as well as PA work. You will be involved in top management studies and surveys where client contact is encouraged, so personality and poise are as important as good skills. Age: 22-35 Skills: 90/60

RECRUITMENT 5 GARRICK STREET
CONVENT GARDEN
COMPANY TEL: 01-831 1220

PA/SECRETARY

required by expanding Development and Construction Company to work as PA/Secretary to the General Manager. Secretarial and administration skills of a high order are essential and experience in a similar position where confidentiality and discretion well required would be distinct advantage. The successful applicant would be based in our new Head Office in London, N17. Salary is negotiable commensurate with ability and experience. Please apply in writing giving full particulars of career to date to BOX NUMBER C58.

SHORTHAND AUDIO SEC £10,000

Large City Bank are looking to recruit an ambitious secretary to work within one of their busiest departments. Benefits include sub mort, STL bonus scheme and lots more. Excellent opportunity. UPTOWN PERSONNEL 01-628 4737

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requires secretary with WP experience for a Director. Salary £8,500. Phone Barbara Knight on 491 8888.

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Sadly, I will be leaving my superb boss soon. I have promised to find my replacement before I go. As a Senior Partner, he is a man who will ask your opinion, rely on your judgement, and delegate as much as you can take. He is great fun to work with, but in return expects excellent personal and work presentation. This is a very confidential PA role and you will probably not be seen under 22.

As part of one of the largest International Search organisations, we are a small, friendly office of 12 people, working in lovely surroundings in Buckingham Gate SW1. My boss is offering an excellent salary and good personal benefits to the right person.

Why not call me, Sarah, for further information and a confidential chat on 834 7966 or send me your c.v.:

Mrs. S. Gwelan,
The Caldwell Partners International,
29 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6NF.

CAREER DESIGN PERSONNEL

PERSONNEL c£10,000+ banking benefits

Utilise your impeccable secretarial skills when assisting the new Personnel Manager and his recruitment team of this prestigious investment bank. He will delegate and involve you in the running of his department and will offer the opportunity to move into a full recruitment role.

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Small professional firm with exciting new project needs your admin, secretarial and telephone skills to expand. We cover your costs and give you a percentage of turnover. CV to Grafton, 3/4 John Printers Street, W1.

Specialists for the 18-25 year olds

CJES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

An excellent start to a secretarial career

SECRETARY/ COLLEGE LEAVER

City £7,000 - £8,500
We are looking for well-educated young secretaries with good secretarial skills to join a leading firm of international management recruitment consultants. The successful candidates will provide full secretarial support to a senior consultant, which includes arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone liaison with candidates and clients. Friendly offices near Liverpool Street. Total remuneration £7,000-£8,500 to include profit sharing incentive scheme, free BUPA, permanent sickness and life assurance schemes. Applications in strict confidence under reference JS669 to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JACKSON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LTD. (Recruitment Consultants)
25 New Broad Street, London EC2N 1HT Telephone Applications 01-438 8587 or 01-438 8580

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PR Agency, close Oxford Circus, seeks First Class Secretary, preferably with Word Processing experience, for Account Director. Fast accurate typing, numeracy and ability to work under pressure.

Salary, circa £8,500 p.a.
Telephone Jan Bates on 01-734 9681
(No agencies)

CAREER SECRETARY COVENT GARDEN

WANTED - that rare person who really enjoys being a secretary.

We're a successful and growing Design and Communications Consultancy, looking for an experienced, dedicated and excellent PA/Secretary to work as part of a team with our Corporate Communications Director and Manager on a wide variety of projects for clients large and small, at home and abroad. Salary according to age and experience.

Please write with CV to:

Milissa Howard
Sampson/Tyrell
The Carriage Hall
29 Floral Street
London WC2E 9DP.
No Agencies

FUTURE PERFECT Interested in FASHION, WINE, or CONSERVATION?

Internationally famous fashion co. setting up its design HQ in Fulham has 3 exciting sec. vacs. Sal. range £8,500-£10,500. 90/55. Age 20-35.

Precious wine and spirits co. in SW1 needs 2 secs. (£8,500-£9,000) to arrange wine tasting. 90/55/WP. Age 20's. Super booze benefits.

Dynamic founder of a conservation charity in SW1 needs your self-motivation and enthusiasm. Rusty std./60kyp + WP. Sal. £9,500. Age 24-30.

Undecided? Try temping and find your ideal permanent job and be well paid while looking! 90std or audio. 30+ typ. Age 19-25. Please call:

437 6032

HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Admin PA/Sec £9,000

High calibre opening for a young secretary of at least one year's experience. As part of a small management team, you will handle all aspects of VIP service to an exclusive Central London residential development. The role is varied and embraces organising parties right through to arranging babysitters. The joys of liaison and 'people contact' in addition to genuine scope for initiative. Skills 80/50. Age 19+.

Please call 01-493-5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

THE WORK SHOP Market Research \$9,000

Do you have a lively mind - closely attuned to the world of business, fast-moving markets, corporate enterprise, and success? Then come in from the cold. This small Covent Garden-based research outfit needs your flair, energy and commitment. In return, you get all-round involvement, freedom from hierarchy scope and support. Good education? Good secretarial experience? Skills (80/50)? Age 22-30? Please call 01-409 1232 today.

Recruitment Consultants

EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS WEST END RECEPTIONIST

We require an experienced receptionist/typist/typist. A knowledge of Monarch/Herald switchboard and word processing would be an advantage. Age 30 - 40.

Salary circa £9,500

Please telephone: 01-930 4334

AMERICAN BANK PA £11,500

Marvellous post for young PA/Secretary in International Investment Area. This post involves organising conferences and seminars throughout the UK, dealing with presentations and the Press. Some travel involved. You will have ex. skills, 100/70 and WP, confidence, excellent appearance and the ability to deal with the public at all levels. Age 25 - 30. Benefits mortgage sub. bonuses etc.

Dulcie Simpson
Appointments Ltd

LA CRÈME APPOINTMENTS ALSO APPEAR ON

PAGE 26

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Speculate on a Secretary/PA role to the MD and you'll accumulate extensive job involvement and flexibility. Your investment will be well managed by this City firm. Ref: 559/30002

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The Americans rely on these British computer consultants - so an excellent calibre Secretary is needed for a Senior position involving high level negotiation and showing the Yanks that we still know best. Ref: 551/30018

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THE ARTS

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Television
Frothing
about

The most curious thing about *Remington Steele* (Channel 4) is that the BBC should have turned down the option on this, its second series, in favour of *Moonlighting*. At first blink they are indistinguishable. Each is an American "romantic comedy-thriller", each featuring on the appeal of a *solo* but capable lady gun-shoe (here Cybill Shepherd, here Stephanie Zimbalist) in tandem with a slightly raffish male partner (Bruce Willis v. Pierce Brosnan); each is glossy, soporific chewing-gum for the eyeballs.

Remington Steele hails from the MTM Enterprises stable which has brought us *Hill Street Blues*, *Lois and Clark* and *St Elsewhere* — series which derive their strength from the artificial creation of working milieu as much as from any virtues of storyline. *Remington Steele* opts instead for international froth: even before the opening credits we had already visited Cairo, Egypt and London, England and Amsterdam, Holland, where handbags of "leopard" were being blown out of safes and a short sharp back home (where some of the ice came to light in a defrosted state) we were off to Acapulco, Mexico, where David Warner turned in an unlikely cameo as a Gucci villain, and where unpaid extras in the street have a disconcerting habit of staring at the camera during lengthy walking shots.

Henry Mancini's fruity, John Barry-inspired music was a reminder that Mr Brosnan is tipped to become the next James Bond. It may perhaps be kinder to remember him as the smiling-eyed IRA assassin at the end of *The Long Good Friday*. A star of that film, Derek Thompson, returned in terrorist drag on *The Price* (also Channel 4), a welcome repeat of Peter Ransley's kidnapping opera now carved into three chunks for screening on successive nights.

Well cast — particularly with Peter Barkworth and Harriet Walter as the incongruous married couple straining the horns of the plot's dilemma — and excellently filmed and edited, this serial makes one wonder why British television companies do so much of their shopping abroad.

Martin Cropper

In the second of our excerpts from his diaries and sketch-books of the RSC's recent tour in Australia, Antony Sher, alias Richard III, finds Melbourne exhilarating, tiring and ultimately a happy place for a birthday

Dame Edna and the
old earth mother

Tuesday May 20: I like Melbourne and I think the feeling is going to be mutual: this is a much more cosmopolitan, theatre-loving city than Adelaide and there is a real buzz about the RSC being here. The city itself is enormously attractive — architecturally the style is Old Colonial with a touch of New Orleans in the wrought-iron balconies with their peeling paint and hanging ferns, and there is a charming old tram system clambering up and down the hilly streets.

Wednesday May 21: First night. The acoustic at the State Theatre is even better than in Adelaide: what a relief to be playing the part with a voice which now feels as able as my body — I suppose six months of *Torch Song Trilogy* seven times a week has greatly strengthened the vocals. Tonight's audience was probably the best we have ever had for the show: they could switch from huge laughter to shocked silence in exactly the way the production intends, and they also added a new sound — gasps of disbelief at Richard's callousness. It was as if they were on the verge of hissing Richard or yelling out to his victims "Behind you!"

Saturday May 24: Waiting in the wings to begin the show I have the oddest sense of déjà vu with this backstage view of the set I could easily be in Stratford 1984 or the Belcon in 1985. There can be few other occasions in life where an environment is transported in such minute detail from one end of the world to another. Then, as the show proceeds, the feeling continues — a succession of familiar sensations being replayed in only slightly different ways. Opening the show again has made for a tough week. I'm feeling tired and it's strange how little satisfaction I get from the success we are enjoy-

ing here: wonderful reviews again and packed, responsive audiences. I think the fresh impetus I got from the new cast is wearing off and now the show is beginning to feel like something that I've perhaps been doing for too long.

Thursday May 29: We have Thursdays off — a sort of midweek weekend — to lighten the schedule for me. Tonight the company was invited en masse to Barry Humphreys's new show *Travis Before Bedtime*. Humphreys is a great hero of mine, but I was nervous that he would attempt to "weave" me into the show. In the event he simply made some very funny references, like when Dame Edna was distributing the gladdies she selected one with a bent stem and said "Oh look possums, it's a Richard III gladdie!" The show was stunning as always and afterwards I went backstage and met Humphreys for the first time. He told me that he'd liked the drawings in my book and that the Dame had whispered to him that she might consent to sit for a portrait sometime: she is referred to very precisely in the third person, so one is left under the clear impression that this tall, restrained man all in black — sleek black hair, black polo-neck and slacks with bare feet sticking out — is simply as Dame Edna describes him. "My little manager Barry Humphreys", and that she herself is reclining in another, grander dressing-room, magnificently spent, yet another triumphant performance behind her.

Wednesday June 4: The tour really is beginning to take its toll and we're only about halfway through. The show is tiring in every sense: I'm bored by it and yet it exhausts me so much that I have no energy during the days to alleviate my boredom. I tend to sit in the hotel room ordering meals from room

service and staring at the grey, drizzly skies (my body is programmed to expect summer in June, not winter) and listening to the incessant noise of city streets and those endless bloody construction works which seem to be on every single corner in Australia. I suppose I'm just not suited to touring — I find living constantly within city centres terribly debilitating. I'm counting the days to the long weekend and escaping to the Outback.

Sunday-Monday June 8-9: Yulara. With Jim, Penny and Charles to view Ayers Rock and The Olga which are another small cluster of mountains and not, as someone at the theatre suggested, a lot of Chekhovian sisters. To the Aborigines, Ayers Rock is the earth mother herself, whom they relate to quite literally: the other evening the delightful Don Dunstan (ex-Premier of South Australia to whom I'd been given an introduction by Miriam Karlin) told a wonderful story about a mixed-race Outback school where the teacher asked the kids to draw their own self-portraits and all the Aborigines handed in pictures of landscapes rather than faces, with trees, rocks, rivers and gullies as their features. And, in reverse, one of the most extraordinary things about Ayers Rock is that erosion has etched great masks and faces into her sides, with fish mouths and many eyes.

Circling the base we played Callas on the jeep's stereo system and her impossible notes effortlessly scaled the towering rock-faces, making the most tremendous union. That first evening we joined a line of tourists stretched across the bush to watch the sunset miraculously change the colours of the Rock, and then early the next morning we climbed it. One of the



producers of our show, Derek Glynn, had made me promise not to do so because there had been many accidents over the years involving tumbling tourists, but since I already play the part on crutches I couldn't really see what the fuss was about: and the moment I set eyes on the Rock I knew I would have to break my word. The climb was terrifying and exhilarating, a dazzling sunrise coming up over the summit as we struggled towards it — and at the end, standing on top of the world, the wind tearing at our hair, it was, as Charles later described it, "as if my head had been lifted off and changed for a new one".

Wednesday June 11: Greatly refreshed by the weekend, I enjoyed the show again tonight for the first time in ages

and, perhaps more importantly, found a way of spending the day in the hotel room — I've started sketching (for the first time on the tour) and am trying to work out the composition for a large oil painting of the Rock (with changing sunlight, colours and faces) which I want to do when I get home.

Saturday June 14: My thirty-seventh birthday: also the second anniversary of the show's opening in Stratford: also our last night in Melbourne. A happy birthday — five huge cakes and a deluge of champagne from the company. There are crowds waiting at the stage door and piles of my book to sign. We have been an unqualified success here, packed every night for our four-week run. We celebrate at Miel's which has become our late-night haunt

here, our Joe Allens-away-from-home. It has a wonderful Parisienne/Viennese atmosphere, with armchairs and sofas placed informally round the dining tables, waiters in black tie and tails swooping around, and a pianist tinkling in the corner. In fact, I'm really going to miss Miel's. But so far it is Ayers Rock above all which I shall always remember from Australia.

Text and drawing © Antony Sher, 1986

TOMORROW: Brisbane

Antony Sher will appear in a Platform Performance tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the Lyttelton Theatre; he will answer questions from the audience about his work, and afterwards sign copies of his book *Year of the King*, published in paperback tomorrow by Methuen at £4.50.

Promenade
Concert
Colours
fading

BBC Welsh SO/
Hoddinott/
Frémaux
Albert Hall/Radio 3

For the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra to offer London something representative of recent composition in the Principality is laudable. But it is hard to believe that Alun Hoddinott's short 1970 work, *The sun, the great luminary of the universe*, is among the best Welsh orchestral pieces of the last 20 years, or even among the most durable items in this composer's bulging portfolio.

The title does not help, because it only gives part of the James Joyce sentence that continues "... had become as sackcloth of hair". In fact the subject is nothing less than the Day of Doom, with the Archangel Michael trumpeting "the brazen death of time".

That at least is the literary context, but there was little in the music to suggest the brazen death of time (unless it was the composer's somewhat imprecise conducting) or anything else apocalyptic.

It would not be an authentic Hoddinott score without colourful swooshes, portentous shock-chords and lashing of gongs, crotales and big bass drum. The gaudy gestures, however, never seem to develop dramatically.

The work's oddest feature is its quotation from the Bach chorale "Es ist genug". Many composers would shy away from inviting obvious comparisons with a masterpiece like Berg's Violin Concerto, but Hoddinott appears to relish the dangerous proximity: some eerie oscillations steer very close to *Wozzeck*. Perhaps it is simply that great minds think alike.

Louis Frémaux conducted the other works, as characteristically as in his best CBSO days. Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony was not always sweetly unified but, prompted by some excellent wind articulation, the orchestra grew increasingly confident and produced a real sirocco of a saltarello.

There was much vigour, too, in their contribution to Berlioz's *Harold in Italy*, and this contrasted happily with Peter Schidlof's essentially wistful viola-playing.

Richard Morrison

Dance
Effort rewarded

Giselle
Festival Hall

Because we do not yet have a proper theatre suitable and available for the large-scale dance companies in London, Festival Ballet has to pack its bags halfway through its summer season and migrate from the Coliseum to the Festival Hall, where it opened on Monday night. The house was never intended for theatrical use, but London Festival Ballet has more experience of managing there than anyone else and makes a good job of it.

Mary Skeaping's production of *Giselle*, which is playing all this week, was designed so that it could be given successfully even in the restrictive stage conditions at the Festival Hall, and consequently does not look at all makeshift. The lighting even looked better this time than I have seen it in real theatres; clearly someone has been taking trouble.

Several casts will take the leading roles during the week. The first-night choice was Andria Hall in the title part with Peter Schaufuss as Albrecht. Both perform with an intensity that makes them fit well together.

Hall is not a particularly histrionic Giselle. She lets the dancing show the character as far as possible. Even her mad scene relies less on acting than on the substitution of an abrupt and spasmodic forcefulness of movement for the sweet, gentle flow that is her usual style.

Schaufuss acts with meticulous care, but again it is the quality of the dancing that distinguishes his performance: strong, urgent and impassioned. He and Hall both sustain their style smoothly and clearly through the long series of solos and duets, combining lyricism and drama, that make up the second half of Act II.

It is in the supporting cast that one sees how much Festival Ballet has developed during the last couple of years since Schaufuss became director. Often in the past it has been possible to admire individual performers — for instance in the peasant duet that was given on Monday with bright freshness by Virginia Alberti and Matz Skoog. But what was impressive this time was the way all the roles contributed to the total effect.

There was the liveliness of the chorus dancers in Act I as well as Alexander Grant's generally autocratic Prince of Courland, and the unanimity of the ghostly ensemble in Act II led by Janette Mulligan with a warm enjoyment of her supernatural vendetta.

After 290 previous performances of this production, the company dances the ballet as coherently as if it were a new staging.

John Percival



Watchable and stylish: Alec McCowen (centre) with Simon Ward and Sheila Allen

Theatre

The Cocktail
Party
Phoenix

T.S. Eliot's most commercially successful play was a conscious attempt to sublimate his natural instinct for the rhetorical mode of drama to the discipline of conventional theatre: he clearly saw, in other words, that the piece had to work in terms of stagecraft before his ideas could flourish. As Peter Ackroyd has noted, "Racine has entered the drawing-room".

First given at the Edinburgh Festival of 1949, it has not been seen in London since 1968. On the evidence of John Dexter's production for the New Theatre Company, the author's intentions remain in the realm of wishful thinking. On the contrary, the piece comes to life only when the rhetorical power of the poetry is allowed to spread its sails.

Much of the dialogue consists of a wordy and rather laboured analysis of relationships; here it is rendered almost as though the cast were practising conversation in a foreign language, an aspect reinforced by the decorously measured pace which stretches the performance out to nearly three and a half hours, including two intervals.

Above all, it is the sort of play in which, as soon as a recently arrived character announces his or her imminent departure, we know that this will not happen.

The plot, baldly, concerns the rocky marriage of a stuff, prissy barrister, Edward Chamberlayne, and his more gregarious wife, Lavinia, who at the play's inception has invited guests for a cocktail party and promptly decamped to an unknown destination. Husband and wife have each been carrying on, less than happily, behind the other's back. An unwitting guest, Sir Henry Harcourt-Reilly and how Eliot relished these Gothic tombstone names, utters gnomic pronouncements and later has both of them attend his surgery for an extended lecture on the possibilities of spiritual redemption. Inevitably, the religious vocabulary shuffles forward, until he stands before them as a secular priest: "Go in peace and work out your salvation with diligence".

In the third act, two years on, the marriage has been saved, the Chamberlaynes' drawing-room has been redecorated in optimistic whites in place of the hard-edged polychrome we first saw, and another cocktail party is in the offing. Before it can take place, however, the "guardians" (Harcourt-Reilly and his two good angels) drop in to update the plot.

Edward's former lover Celia has met a gruesome end in foreign parts, having been smeared with a toothsome unguent and crucified next to an ant-hill — the kind of fate which in Firbank, say, would occur in the margin and be hilarious, but which in this "comedy" is treated in all solemnity as a martyrdom. When Lavinia's former lover responds to this news by realizing his own selfishness (i.e. another soul saved for the spiritual bank-account) one's incredulity is complete.

Alec McCowen's central performance as the head "guardian" is decidedly watchable for most of the proceedings — he has the true Eliotic delivery where it matters most — but his support is patchy: Sheila Gish's Celia appears as a sort of banked-down *Blanche du Bois*; Sheila Allen never gets her teeth into the role of Lavinia ("The wife must be fierce", insisted Eliot: "the audience must understand that she is impossible") and Simon Ward as the bloodless, indecisive Edward is quite as dull as the role demands.

Martin Cropper

Other music
Time for
variety

Summerscope
Elizabeth Hall

Five weeks of a new-style nightly series called "Summerscope", embracing opera, dance and jazz as well as other music, began on Monday night with a long programme of multi-purpose character.

Phyllis Bryn-Julson first sang some delectable Debussy with Donald Suberland at the piano and then, to press the "celebration of our century" as the focus of the series, continued with Berg and Ives. Her wonderfully warm tone and expressive phrasing brought an eloquent sensibility to Berg's Seven Early Songs, with their lingering look back to the vanishing harmonic world of Mahler. Ives was likewise first shadowed by Brahms in his use of the same text for his setting of "Feldensamkeit", but became more properly himself in the graphic detail of "West London" and the humour of "The Greatest Man", both pointedly sung.

John Williams next had the outbuilt stage to himself for guitar music by three contrasting composers. Two early pieces by Leo Brouwer afforded the most colourfully varied writing for the instrument, but the more poetic imagination of Toru Takemitsu, both in *Folias* and his very free rhapsody on Gershwin's "Summertime", were much to be enjoyed.

An association between the London Sinfonietta and the Arc Dance Company, formed last year by the Danish-born Kim Brandstrup, comprising nine modern-dance graduates trained here from six different countries, brought two new productions.

Both *Under Moon*, choreographed to the Concerto in *moto perpetuo* by Simon Bainbridge, and a new approach to *The Soldier's Tale* in relation to Stravinsky's instrumental suite, deserve more detailed comment on their relationship of dance to music, but signal a welcome new talent in this direction.

Antony Pay's virtuosic clarinet provided a solo Stravinsky interlude between them.

Something for everybody? Probably not, but everything for somebody not circumscribed by habit and convention.

Noël Goodwin

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WEDNESDAY JULY 30 1986

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1271.6 (+7.8)
FT-SE 100
1556.4 (+7.0)
Bargains
22326
USM (Datastream)
121.68 (-0.54)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.4910 (+0.0140)
W German mark
3.1453 (+0.0170)
Trade-weighted
72.1 (+0.4)

French buy for Booker

Booker, the food distribution and agribusiness group, is spending about £10 million on a 38 per cent stake in La Vie Claire, the largest chain of health food shops and premier health food brand in France.

La Vie Claire has 200 mainly franchised shops and more than 100 product sections in supermarkets in France and 30 franchises in Belgium and Switzerland. It also runs two bakeries and a food manufacturing plant; owns L'Herbier de Provence, a chain of 75 herbal cosmetics shops, and has four other health foods and cosmetics businesses.

Booker has an option to take its stake up to at least 67 per cent by 1990, the price linked to warranted profits over the next three years. It also has an option to sell the stake back at the price it paid, if the expected profits do not materialize.

Comet bound

A second Dixons director is to join the board of Comet following the surprise appointment of a Dixons' managing director, Mr Eddie Styring, to the same position at Comet last week. He is Mr Brent Wilkinson, who was purchasing director.

Stakis deal

Stakis, the hotel group, is making an agreed £2.7 million takeover bid for Plan Investment Group, the financial services business, which earned profits of £160,000 in the opening half of this year. The operation will fit in with Stakis' existing investment company, Manain.

Dee up 29%

Dee Corporation's pretax profits leapt 29 per cent to £83 million for the year to April 26 on turnover up 17.5 per cent to £2.86 billion. The dividend was increased by 1.4p to 7.2p. *Tempus, page 18*

CAP rises

CAP Group, the software company, made taxable profits of £2.7 million in the year ending April 30, a rise of 28 per cent, on sales 38 per cent higher. The total dividend was 1.5p. *Tempus, page 18*

No tin verdict

A decision on the future of Cornwall's tin industry has been postponed again, probably until mid-August. Mr David Penhaligon, Liberal MP for Truro, said.

VSEL dealings

Stock market dealings start tomorrow in shares of VSEL Consortium, the former Vickers Shipbuilding bought out from British Shipbuilders this year.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	1770.67 (+3.29)
Dow Jones	1772.94 (+310.00)
Nikkei Dow	1860.01 (+12.72)
Hong Kong	281.5 (-2.8)
Amsterdam Gen	1105.1 (+10.5)
Sydney AO	1809.3 (-34.0)
Frankfurt	625.55 (-25.87)
Brussels	379.0 (-2.5)
Paris CAC	n/a
SKA General	n/a
London closing prices	Page 21

INTEREST RATES

INTEREST RATES	
Bank Base: 10%	
3-month Interbank: 10-9 1/8%	
3-month eligible bills: 9 1/8-9 3/4%	
US:	
Prime Rate: 8%	
Federal Funds: 6 1/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills: 9 1/8-9 3/4%	
30-year bonds: 9 3/4-9 1/2%	

CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	
London:	
£: \$1.4910	
DM: 3.1453	
Sfr: 2.1518	
FF: 110.51	
Yen: 231.85	
Index: 72.1	
New York:	
£: \$1.4905	
DM: 3.1453	
Sfr: 2.1518	
FF: 110.51	
Yen: 231.85	
Index: 72.1	

Job prospects worsening, says CBI poll

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

British manufacturing industry is in the doldrums, with orders, output and exports stagnating and job prospects declining, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

With no likelihood of a fillip to industry's fortunes expected before the winter, the employers' organization presented a dull midsummer picture of an industrial economy suffering from continuing high interest rates, poor competitiveness, aggravated by what it regards as excessive pay settlements, and a resulting low level of business optimism.

The latest CBI quarterly trends survey of manufacturing, covering 1,548 companies, shows that the only bright spot on an otherwise bleak horizon is continuing buoyancy in the high street, with low inflation, lower mortgage rates and rises in real earnings maintaining the growth in consumer spending.

Mr David Wigglesworth, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee, said: "Output has been flat and will remain so for the next few months; manufacturers' stocks have been reduced and further reductions are expected; export performance has been dull and is not likely to improve greatly in the near future. As a result, optimism is declining and job losses are continuing."

Twenty-two per cent of firms are less optimistic about the business situation than they were in April, although the CBI stressed that much larger swings in optimism—a "very volatile emotion," said

Mr Wigglesworth—had occurred in the past.

Despite the depressing results of the survey, the CBI attempted to put on a brave face, while at the same time making another urgent call to the Government to facilitate a speedy reduction in interest rates.

Mr Wigglesworth said: "We should not talk ourselves into despondency or gloom. The movements in the trends concerned are not very great and despite flat output the outlook is not all discouraging."

"Europe is doing better now than at the start of the year and this should help our exports soon. Output should also feel the effect of consumers' spending, which continues to surge ahead."

"The outlook for prices is good, with firms reporting that cost increases are at their lowest levels since 1959, and are expected to remain at this very low level."

The incessant drive for improved competitiveness is leading to more redundancies, with manufacturing industry expected to lay off about 6,000 people a month in the next quarter. The CBI is now concerned that while larger firms account for the bulk of the losses, employment in small firms is slowing down.

Out of 50 industrial categories in the survey, 41 expect to reduce their labour forces in the coming months against 39 in the previous quarterly survey.

Mr Wigglesworth said: "Most small firms are heavily geared; they have little money and no shareholders' funds, unlike the big multinationals."

For the small firms, interest rates are a big burden and they are very heavily disadvantaged at the moment. Our message to the Government is that interest rates are a very considerable problem to the whole of manufacturing; they have not come down in relation to inflation as fast as they have in competitor countries."

CBI economists are revising their GNP growth forecasts, which are to be published next month and are likely to show a dip from the previously predicted 2.5 per cent for this year.

The trends survey shows that, on balance, all manufacturing sectors are less optimistic about prospects than four months ago, with the decline most marked in the capital goods industries.

A negative balance of 25 per cent of companies (that is, the difference between those reporting more orders and those reporting fewer) said their order books were below normal, reflecting a continued lack of improvement since the start of the year.

Four months ago, a positive balance of 16 per cent of firms expected their orders to rise but now a negative balance of 6 per cent has reported a decline. Mr Wigglesworth said that despite the falling world oil price, the United States and West Germany—"the major engines of world growth"—were not providing the stimulus that British industry had expected.

Export deliveries have declined for the first time since 1983, with 26 per cent of firms reporting a decline in orders from abroad.

£19m cash call at TVS

By Lawrence Lever

Television South, the independent television contractor for the South and South-East of England, is raising £19.3 million from a one-for-three rights issue to develop an international division covering production, programme distribution, and music publishing.

Mr James Garward, chief executive of TVS, said yesterday that the TVS board intended to reduce the company's commercial dependence on its franchise from the Independent Broadcasting Authority. This was being done in anticipation of the pressure on advertising revenue of franchise companies from the growth of cable and satellite television.

The rights issue at 200p per share represented a 20 per cent discount to the market price of 240p before yesterday's announcement. The shares fell to 228p.

TVS, which earlier this month announced a 91 per cent increase in half-year profits, is also forecasting an increase in the full-year dividend from 11.4p to 14p. The proceeds of the issue will be used to fund the £4.93 million purchase of Midem Organisation, a French company, and the purchase of a 10 per cent stake in ITV Superchannel which aims to market the best of British television to the European cable television network.

Oil price fall 'hits coal recovery'

By Teresa Poole

The sharp drop in the oil price has pushed back the target date for breakeven at British Coal by up to two years, the chairman, Sir Ian MacGregor, said yesterday.

British Coal, formerly the National Coal Board, does not now expect to break even until 1988-89 at the earliest because cheaper oil has forced down the price of coal.

Sir Ian said that last year was one of "great achievement" but the industry still had great challenges to overcome. The report and accounts, published yesterday, confirmed earlier forecasts for the year to the end of March of overall losses of £50 million—the best financial performance for seven years. In the year before the miners' strike losses reached £875 million.

An operating profit of £535 million was achieved after releasing a £342 million provision made the previous year to cover costs associated with the strike. Productivity was at a record level with weekly overall productivity exceeding three tonnes a manshift in December for the first time, nearly 30 per cent higher than in 1983-84.

In the wake of the strike, 27 collieries stopped production



Sir Ian MacGregor: "A year of great achievement" and almost 33,000 jobs were lost. Since the year end there have been a further four closures, leading to 6,500 job losses and Sir Ian indicated that the total for the full year would be about 20,000.

The improved trading performance meant that British Coal last year kept well within the external financing limit of £929 million agreed with the Government and only required £429 million. The industry has said it will keep to the £730 million for this year.

Sir Ian, who retires as chairman at the end of next month, said there were still further reductions in costs to be made.

Government set to write off £74m at Royal Ordnance

By Teresa Poole

The Government was prepared to write off all rationalization costs at Royal Ordnance, the state-owned weapons manufacturer, to make the company more attractive for flotation, the 1985 annual report reveals.

The unpublished accounts show a £59 million extraordinary charge to cover the full costs of restructuring. This brought the total provisions in the balance sheet for rationalization to £74 million. The report, which was prepared in the run-up to the expected privatization, has never been published, but has been seen by *The Times*.

After last month's sudden cancellation of Royal Ordnance's flotation—on the grounds that the company's transformation into a fully fledged commercial entity was not complete—a full picture is only now emerging of the Government's endeavours to ensure a successful stock market launch. Share dealings were originally planned to start today.

According to a draft prospectus, most of the outstanding problems had been

resolved by the beginning of June.

● The MoD had agreed to source all its explosives requirement from Royal Ordnance at agreed prices, even when not actually manufactured by the company. This would have ensured the viability of the Bridgewater factory in Somerset, the only British source of high standard explosives even though its capacity is too great for peace-time.

● The small arms division at Radway Green, Cheshire, which manufactures almost exclusively for the British Armed Forces was guaranteed a minimum of purchases for the first three years after flotation. Competition for the ammunition requirement would be phased in gradually with only 10 per cent subject to competitive tendering this year, 25 per cent next year, rising to 33 per cent the following year.

● It had been agreed that the MoD would foot the bill in respect of a loss-making contract for the design and rocket motor of the Alarm missile for which British Aerospace is the prime contractor. A provision



Dr Maurice Gillibrand (left) and Sir Michael Edwardes address yesterday's annual meeting

Edwardes offers to resign

By Cliff Feltham

Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman and chief executive of Chloride Group, offered to resign yesterday after criticism of his leadership.

He told shareholders at the company's annual meeting that if they voted on a show of hands against his re-election to the board he would stand down even though an overwhelming majority of proxies had been cast in his favour.

But despite strong demands for his resignation from some shareholders the meeting declared its support for him by a majority of 98 to seven.

One persistent critic, Mr Miles Elton, said: "This company has gone from disaster to disaster. It must be the worst

managed company in this country."

But Sir Michael—who has been associated with Chloride for 35 years—revealed that he did not want to carry on as chief executive after November and assured shareholders that prospects were looking a lot brighter.

"I would not lightly move out of the chief executive role unless I was sure that after some false starts we are back on the right track," he said.

Sir Michael added: "Until we make a profit of £20 million a year the board won't think that we are performing adequately. It will be unsatisfactory that we should continue for any long period of time under that figure." Chloride

reported a loss of £8.4 million for the year just ended.

For the third year running Dr Maurice Gillibrand, head of the shareholders' action group, failed to obtain a seat on the board.

Dr Gillibrand, a former Chloride research chief and long-time critic of Sir Michael's leadership, said the company's management recruitment policies should be reviewed in the light of its continuing losses and failure to pay a dividend for five years.

After the meeting, Dr Gillibrand said the action group had decided to wind up its activities before next year's annual meeting in view of the expected improvement in Chloride's performance.

Treasury blocks SIB move

By Our Banking Correspondent

A move by the Treasury to block the appointment to the Securities and Investments Board of Mr John Kay, director of the Institute of Fiscal Studies, caused disquiet in the City yesterday.

The move was being seen as unwarranted political interference by the Government to silence its critics, and in an area in which the Treasury technically has no say.

Mr Kay was invited about a month ago to become a lay independent member of the SIB, the new City supervisory authority, by Mr Michael Howard, the Trade and Industry minister.

But the Treasury stepped in informally to block the appointment before it was made public. It is understood that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, was behind the intervention.

Under the terms of the Financial Services Bill now going through Parliament, however, only the Department of Trade and Industry and the Bank of England are responsible for SIB appointments, while the Treasury has no role in approving candidates.

The Treasury, the DTI and the Bank of England would not comment yesterday on the situation. The list of SIB members is expected to be published in the next few days.

A spokesman for the SIB said yesterday: "Our main concern is to ensure that there are strong and independent members on our board."

Mr Kay has gained a reputation as a stern critic of government policies.

Volcker fears wave of protectionism

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, said yesterday that the world was very close to the edge of a wave of protectionism similar to that which prolonged the 1930s depression.

In his semi-annual review of monetary policy in the US, Mr Volcker said there were signs that time was running out for the world to make an orderly adjustment of the economic imbalances threatening global growth.

The growing American deficit and the large surpluses enjoyed by Japan and West Germany could not continue indefinitely without dangerously destabilizing the world economy, Mr Volcker said.

He said the global economy must begin generating more exports to the Japanese and Europeans and less to the United States, which suffers from a record trade deficit projected at \$165 billion (£111 billion) for 1986.

A sign of the growing sense of urgency is rising protectionism in the United States, the European Economic Community, Japan, and parts of the developing world, the Central Bank chairman said.

The American economy is not responding to favourable factors such as low interest rates and low oil prices, largely due to the unprecedented build up of both private and public spending debt. Since 1981, when the gross Federal debt reached more than \$1,000 billion, it has soared to an estimated \$2,100 billion this year.

The deficit will continue to grow, making it impossible to achieve the \$144 billion target set out in the balanced budget law recently passed by Congress, due to the slowing economy.

For this reason, Mr Volcker said, it may be necessary to pass a tax increase to bring the deficit into line.

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HIGH GROWTH
- INVESTMENT BOND -

NatWest interim profits up 34%

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

National Westminster Bank comfortably beat City expectations yesterday when it announced a 34 per cent increase in its half-year pretax profits. This was despite an increase in provisions for bad debts during the period.

For the six months to June 30, NatWest turned in pretax profits of £482 million compared with £361 million last year. This exceeded analysts' forecasts of profits ranging from £435 million to £470 million.

The bulk of the profits came from British domestic banking operations where a powerful performance boosted profits by 37 per cent.

Commenting on the results, Lord Boardman, chairman, said: "This represents an excellent trading performance with steady income growth being achieved in a period of falling interest rates worldwide, and with effective control of our operating costs."

Lord Boardman was optimistic about conditions in Britain over the next year. He predicted a pick-up in the economy later this year because of buoyant consumer spending. Investment and exports would gather greater momentum over the next 12 months, while bank base rates were likely to fall to about 9 per cent, he said.

NatWest announced a 10.4 per cent increase in its interim dividend to 7p from 6.34p.

Most of the improvement in NatWest's results came in British domestic banking business which made profits of £320 million, a 57 per cent increase on last year, including a £44 million increase in commission and fee earning business to £398 million. Investment income rose by £49 million to £190 million.

International banking business improved by £5 million to £116 million, reflecting the continued difficulties of bank lending in many parts of the world. Mr Philip Wilkinson, chief executive, said that NatWest aimed to expand in the US, the Far East and Europe. It was also seeking a quotation on the New York and Tokyo stock exchanges.

Provisions for bad debt rose from £151 million to £173 million, but most of the increase went into specific provisions which reduced the tax charge for the group.

Since introducing free-if-credit banking at the end of last year NatWest has picked up more than 100,000 new accounts. Its now counts itself as the ninth largest mortgage lender in the country with a total of £3.5 billion on loan.

Tempus, page 18

gins at West

Hardly pausing for breath, the company has paid more than £270 million to buy the goods retailing chain in the US and the Fine Fare food chain.

This was achieved despite a doubling of interest charges to £2.2 million as a result of the company's decision to bring forward the sale of its shares. But this was a small price to pay for the company's decision to bring forward the sale of its shares.

Debt talks sought

New York-based Renaissance, the company's main creditor, is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan. The company is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan. The company is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan.

Debt talks sought. Renaissance is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan. The company is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan. The company is seeking to renegotiate its £100 million loan.

Oppenheim stakes in Argyle and Kellogg could be up for sale

By Michael Clark

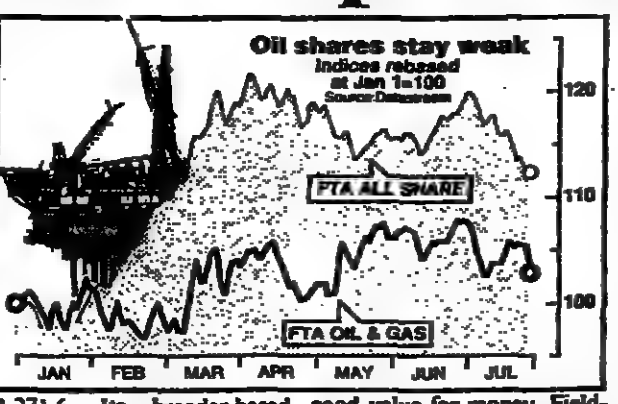
Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier who has been involved in an £80 million bid for Altkem, could be on the verge of pulling out of two of his satellite companies where he is a leading shareholder. He is believed to be thinking over offers for his stake in Kellogg Trust, the factoring group, and Argyle Trust, the financial services group.

Likely buyers of the stakes are the fast-growing Abaco Investments, which has close ties with the British and Commonwealth, and M&L, formerly the Mills and Allen International cinema advertising company. Once Mr Oppenheim's stake is committed to an offer for the outstanding shares would follow.

The shares in both companies held steady yesterday. Kellogg at 73p, where it is valued at around £2 million, and Argyle Trust at 40p, where it is worth about £9 million.

Last night Mr Oppenheim confirmed that he had heard the market talk surrounding an approach from Abaco. "But I can say that no talks are going on at the moment. I cannot believe that Abaco would be interested in Kellogg, although they might be."

M&L built up a small stake in Argyle some time ago then sold it. "Obviously if offers come along and are attractive we will receive them."



Oil shares stay weak. Indices released on Jan 1-100. Source: Reuters.

1,271.6. Its broader-based counterpart, the FT-SE 100, also overcame an early fall of 11.1 to finish 7 up at 1,554.4.

Among the leaders, the jobs were shaken by a sudden flurry of activity in shares of British Telecom, following weakness stemming from reports that Labour plans to rationalize it if it is returned to power.

English China Clays, another dull market of late, met with renewed support, climbing 9p to 317p amid renewed speculation that BTR has been passing its slide rule over the company. But several dealers maintain that the shares are now oversold and looking

good value for money. Fielding Newson-Smith, the broker, is said to have been a big buyer of the shares.

Gilts sparked gains ranging to 4% on overseas buying following the overnight shake-out on the US bond market. There was also support for index-linked stocks where rises of over 1% were reported.

Before the figures, the shares were trading around the 140p level. The oil sector generally has been given the cold shoulder by investors fearful of the impact of lower prices, but only now is the real extent of the damage to profits starting to filter through.

USM-quoted Plan Invest, the personal financial planning consultant, jumped 18p to a peak of 123p after an agreed bid worth 126p-a-share from Stakis, the Scottish hotel and leisure group. Stakis is offering two of its shares for every five Plan Invest shares.

There is a cash alternative of 120p a share. Stakis says Plan Invest's financial planning advice will complement its own Mannin financial services subsidiary. Total funds under management of the two companies will amount to £10 million.

In the first six months of the current year, Plan Invest saw pretax profits rise from £117,993 to £160,169. The directors of Plan Invest and their families have already given irrevocable undertakings in respect of their own holdings totalling 1.4 million shares (51.83 per cent). Stakis

Mr Roger Felber, chairman of Parkfield Group, raised £1.3 million yesterday when he sold a block of 268,484 shares for 50p, the day after the company published its annual results. He had acquired the stake three years ago for 11p. In the stock market the shares fell 15p to 53p.

Shares of James Ferguson, the knitwear group, were suspended at 93p at the company's request pending clarification of its position. At first, the market feared the worst following a series of losses dating back to 1979 and totalling £822,000. But the company says it is pushing ahead with its proposed acquisition programme and needs time to issue the relevant details to shareholders.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet Whitehall pressure scrapes the barrel

The draft accounts for Royal Ordnance raise one glaring question: why did it take so long to cancel the flotation? The group's new top team under Bryan Basset certainly worked some minor miracles of quick re-adjustment, but however many special arrangements were made to shore up the balance sheet and impending profit forecasts, the resulting overall structure was too shaky to attract hard-bitten investors.

It is all very well to write off the problem with the Alarm missile project and to give tapering protection for the small arms division, but that hardly breeds confidence. The future of the Leeds tank factory, as is now known, depended entirely on being handed the Challenger tank contract.

The trouble is that a sale would expose the limited character of the drive for British Coal as a whole to break even, a goal that has itself been put off for two years by the collapse of oil prices.

Keating, is saddled with inflation at 8.4 per cent for the year to June, three times the average for industrial countries. The overall public sector budget deficit has grown to 5.6 per cent of the gross domestic product. And the trade deficit looks out of hand, partly because of low world prices for the country's commodity exports.

The credit agency Moody's even looked at the prime status of Australia's US\$50 billion foreign debt. The proportion of export earnings needed to service this debt has grown from 8 to 34 per cent in five years occasioning Mr Keating's warning that the country could degenerate into a banana republic.

Meanwhile, Nigel Rendell of the stockbrokers James Capel, who has followed the economy with mounting gloom, remains very cautious about investing in Australia. It looks as though an awful lot of Japanese property developers will need to build an awful lot of tourist complexes if the circumpect new welcome for foreign investment is to have much short-term impact.

Australian action replay

The easing of restrictions on foreign investment in Australia may lessen the clamour for even-handedness which surfaced in Britain over the Elders IXL bid for Allied-Lyons. Not that this has anything to do with the change. Australia's government has finally acknowledged that the likes of BTR (whose Australian offshoot BTR Nylex had the good timing to introduce its shares to London on Monday) could ginger up sleepy, protected Australian industrial companies.

This measure, with the reversal of the extension this month of withholding tax, and a reluctant rise in domestic interest rates, were announced to help stem the third precipitate run on the Australian dollar in 18 months. It duly steadied yesterday. But currency dealers will be looking with beady eyes at the federal budget on August 19 before changing their pessimistic attitudes.

The Australian economy, and the corrective policies of Bob Hawke's Labour government, are increasingly being recognised as a rerun of Britain in the mid-seventies. Good intentions of Britain's Labour Government were undone by a desire to please most of the people most of the time. They ended pleasing no one and in recourse to the International Monetary Fund.

The Australian Treasurer, Paul Keating, is saddled with inflation at 8.4 per cent for the year to June, three times the average for industrial countries. The overall public sector budget deficit has grown to 5.6 per cent of the gross domestic product. And the trade deficit looks out of hand, partly because of low world prices for the country's commodity exports.

RECENT ISSUES

Equities	High	Low	Close	Est Val
Anglo Suez (115p)	134	134	134	134
Asahi (115p)	205-1	205-1	205-1	205-1
Asahi (115p)	205-1	205-1	205-1	205-1
Asahi (115p)	205-1	205-1	205-1	205-1

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Val
Sep 85	90.13	90.20	90.12	90.18	1227
Dec 85	90.34	90.38	90.33	90.38	285
Mar 86	90.34	90.34	90.34	90.34	84
Jun 86	90.22	90.22	90.17	90.24	68

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Dealings	Per Settlement
July 21	Aug 15	Nov 17	Nov 17
Aug 15	Sep 5	Nov 20	Nov 20

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Series	Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put
Alfred Lyons (222)	300	40	47	58	8	11
BP (168)	500	75	87	4	5	23
Com Gold (426)	420	35	50	22	34	40
Courts (253)	280	20	29	28	10	16
Com Union (304)	300	30	31	40	13	15

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES	Market rates	Market rates	3 months	6 months
N York	1.478-1.480	1.480-1.485	0.40-0.37pm	1.25-1.21
London	1.478-1.480	1.480-1.485	0.40-0.37pm	1.25-1.21
Paris	1.071-1.073	1.071-1.073	11-11pm	11-11pm

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentine peso	1.2884-1.2889
Australian dollar	0.570-0.571
Belgian franc	0.20-0.205

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Canada	1.4005-1.4035
France	2.1782-2.1770
Germany	0.6085-0.6092

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Series	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
500	35	48	62	15	25	30
1000	12	27	40	45	50	55
2000	4	15	28	35	40	45

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Series	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
100	14	14	13	18	18	18
200	1	1	1	1	1	1

FT-SE 100

Series	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
100	14	14	13	18	18	18
200	1	1	1	1	1	1

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Woodward	Drugs/Stores	1.00
2	James	Drugs/Stores	1.00
3	CASE	Electronics	1.00
4	GEC	Electronics	1.00
5	Rotunda	Electronics	1.00
6	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
7	Cowes (IT)	Industrials E-K	1.00
8	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
9	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
10	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
11	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
12	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
13	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
14	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
15	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
16	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
17	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
18	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
19	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
20	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
21	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
22	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
23	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
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25	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
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48	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
49	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00
50	Reuter (CH)	Industrials A-D	1.00

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Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

UNDATED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

INDEX-LINKED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

ELECTRICALS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares make headway

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end August 8. Settlement day August 11. Settlement day August 18.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

BREWERIES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

FINANCE AND LAND

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

FOODS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

CINEMAS AND TV

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

DRAPERY AND STORES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INDUSTRIALS E-K

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

L-R

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

S-Z

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MINING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TEXTILES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TOBACCO

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MINING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TEXTILES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TOBACCO

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MINING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

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1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	
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agents for wood country proper-
ties Tel. 0747 2600.

Continued on next page

rooms, 3 baths. Lower ground
floor flat. Walled
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Highfield Lymington SO-1
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Continued on next page

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

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Law Report July 30 1986 House of Lords

**South Carolina Insurance Co v
Assuranceurs Manchepilly "De
Zeeven Macclien" NV
Same v Al Abila Insurance Co
and Others**

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich,
Lord Brandon of Oakbrook,
Lord Brightman, Lord Mackay
of Clashfern and Lord Goff of
Chelmsford (dissenting).
(Sneakers held July 29)

LORD BRIDGE said that the board owned two underground electricity cables beneath the surface of South Accommodation House.

with Carolina Insurance Co v
Paradise, 393 U.S. 147, 154 (1969),
"Mandamus," N.Y.
v. Al Abila Insurance Co
Others
ore Lord Bridge of Harwich,
and Brandon of Oakbrook,
and Brightman, Lord Mackay
Cashman and Lord Goff of
decided July 29

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Where defendants in two dish actions sought to obtain evidence for use in those actions

availing themselves of pre-
discovery provided by
assistance to litigants before
state tribunals by the law
of the United States, there was
no interference with the
procedure of the High Court
amounted to unconscionable
conduct.

duct on their part so as to justify the court granting an injunction to restrain them.

The House of Lords so definitively answering an appeal by the defendants, Assamiteh, Nien-Njeng and Zeven Provincie NV, against proceedings against the former in a foreign court.

Such jurisdiction was, however, to be exercised with caution because it involved indirect interference with the process of the foreign court concerned.

The latter form of injunction

might be granted in such circumstances as to constitute an exception to the principle not parties to an action was for the protection of those third parties, and not for the protection of the parties to the action.

junctions granted to the plaintiffs by the Supreme Court, South Carolina Insurance Co. v. Mr. Justice Hobbes, 117 U.S. 213, 1885, whereby the plaintiffs were restrained from bringing any further steps in their action before the United States Court.

Mr. Robert Alexander, QC
Mr. Jonathan Sumption,
for the defendants. Mr.

ORD BRAND said that in December 1984 and February 1985 the plaintiffs had brought

actions in the Commercial Court, but counsel had had great difficulty in formulating the right on which they relied, and

me to be due under certain terms of re-insurance, he be principal place of business of both the agents through whom the original insurance had been placed, and of the loss adjusters who had investigated relevant claims, was in the

his Lordship would hold that the plaintiffs had not shown that situation (1) existed.

In considering whether situation (2) had been shown to exist, it was difficult, and probably unnecessary, to seek to define the expression "unconscionable

If, in any event, the defendant's application, made in the circumstances, was not shown to be a mere attempt to prove a just cause, could not the court find that the defendant was solely on the ground that the plaintiffs had not adequately exonerated the extra costs and expenses incurred by the plaintiffs in connection with the re-insurance, to categorize the defendant's application as an interference with the court's control of its own process?

conduct" in anything like an exhaustive manner. Accordingly, there was no such interference with the

However, the actions in Maryland would not extend to relevant documents held by the state and loss adjusters.

In March 1985 the defendants applied to a district court in Washington for, *inter alia*, the production and inspection of

the court.

The Court of Appeal had based its decision on three grounds: First, the court had to

procedure of the High Court of the defendants as would amount to unconscionable conduct on their part, and so justify their exercise of the court's power to grant injunctions against them.

Lord Bridge, Lord Brightman and Lord Mackay agreed.

Second, the civil procedure of the United States was significant.

but to resist the application. The plaintiffs did so clearly, indicating their objection to it, and they subsequently issued summonses in actions in England seeking orders requiring the defendants to withdraw their application to the court. The court was clearly and fundamentally different from that of the English courts, and the parties, by submitting to the jurisdiction of an English court, had to be taken to have accepted its procedure. Third, unrestricted access to foreign procedural remedies was liable to produce a situation in which the court would, in effect, be required to accept that the power of the court to grant injunctions was restricted to certain exclusive categories.

In particular, his Lordship did not regard the exercise of the power to restrain a person from

United States court and training them from proceeding further with it. hardship in the form of increased costs and inconvenience. commencing or continuing proceedings in a foreign forum as constituting an extension of

Subject to the help which a party could obtain from the court, the basic principle underlying the preparation and presentation of a party's case under the civil procedure in the certain limited categories in which it had been said that the power might alone be exercised.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co; Herbert Smith & Co.

Cause of action under street works

Act arises when cost of making good damage is incurred

third party, in the course of laying ducts for the Post Office, whose relevant obligations had

one Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman, Lord MacKie, Lord Clapham and Lord Aekner speeches sold July 29]

...the cause of action under section 26(6) of the Public Health Act 1936, and the Board had made good the damage in

...now devolved on British Telecom, had damaged the electricity cables.

The latest dates when the two cables must have been damaged were May 13 and July 6, 1971, respectively. The board had made good the damage in

...providing that the cause of action accrues when the damage occurs, even though it is not possible for the owning undertaker to quantify his damages until a later date.

Examination of that proposition to see if it could be

On May 4, 1978, they had issued their writ against the Post

The House of Lords allowed the appeal by the plaintiffs, the Yorkshire Electricity Board, in the Court of Appeal (Sir Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Purchas and three other judges).

The question in the appeal was whether a cause of action under section 26(6) of the 1950

had allowed an appeal by the defendants, British Telecommunications plc, and the other party, P. Igoe & Son (a firm), from Mr Justice Newell.

The judge had held, on November 11, 1983, on a

plaintiffs' claim under section 5) was not time-barred by a statutory cause of action created by a requirement that A "shall pay" a sum of money to B recover nothing from the defendant was surely unacceptable. His Lordship considered sec-

[illegible]

Halifax Corporation ([1963] AC 785), *Servcon Ltd v Lucas* CA

[illegible]

The respondents had cancelled their policies on the basis of making good damage to their apparatus.

Mr Alan Fletcher, QC and Mr Croxford for the electricity rate; Viscount Bledisloe, QC Mr Nicholas Underhill for Irish Telecommunications; John Samuels, QC and Miss Olive Budden for the third

ORD BRIDGE said that the

and owned two underground
cables beneath the
face of South Accommoda-

